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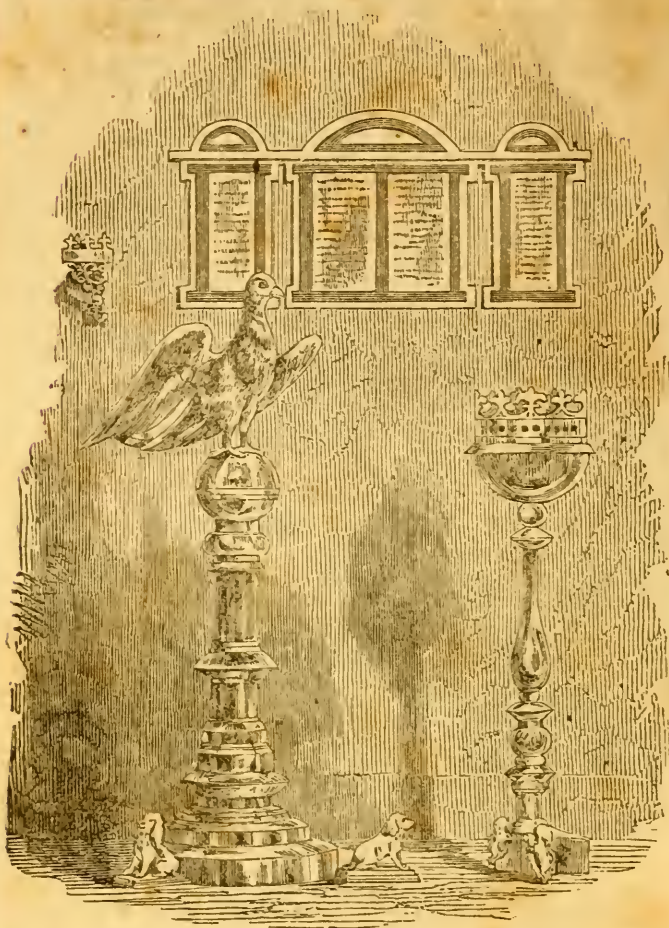
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RELICS OF NICHOLAS FERRAR.



The above Engraving (from a Sketch by Cuthbert Bede) represents the chief articles of church furniture still remaining in Little Gidding Church, Huntingdonshire. They are—

1. A fine brass eagle, for a lectern—*minus* its claws, which were of silver.
2. A brazen font, on which are engraved crosses and *fleurs-de-lis*, the leg, layer, and cover being all of brass. The cover was originally surmounted by a cross: it now has the shape of a coronet, composed of crosses and *fleurs-de-lis*.
3. A brazen bracket and frame, placed on the left side of the chancel arch; and, doubtless, the frame for an hour-glass.
4. Three brazen tablets, on which are engraved the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments. They are fixed over the cedar communion-table, which is still preserved, together with its Persian carpet altar-cloth.

These articles were presented to the Church of Little Gidding, by Mrs. Ferrar, who thought the house of God the only place on which such costly furniture was not ill bestowed; and, in this, her son not only approved, but animated her devotion. See the "Life of N. Ferrar," by Doctor Jebb, which has been re-published and edited by J. E. B. Mayor, M.A.; together with the Life of N. Ferrar, by his Brother, under the title of "Cambridge in the

Nicholas Farrer.

Seventeenth Century." In the review of this book in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for June, 1855, Mr. Carlyle's misrepresentations of Nicholas Ferrar and his "Arminian Nunnery," are quoted from Mr. Mayor's able preface. (Vide Carlyle's "Cromwell," i. 106.) An abridgment of Dr. Peckard's "Life of N. Ferrar," was published by Masters, in 1852.



C. Johnson pinxt.

P. H. Tomkins sculp. late Chapl. of St. Bartolomew.

NICHOLAS FERRAR, A.M.

Born, Feb. 22. 1592. Died, Dec. 2. 1637.

Pub. as the Act directs, Jan. 1. 1701.

221B-69

M E M O I R S
OF THE
L I F E
OF
Mr. NICHOLAS FERRAR.

By P. PECKARD, D.D.
MASTER OF MAGDALEN COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

C A M B R I D G E,
Printed by J. ARCHDEACON Printer to the UNIVERSITY;
And sold by J. & J. MERRILL, and J. BOWTELL, in
Cambridge; and T. PAYNE & Son, at the
Mews Gate, London.
MDCCXC.



P R E F A C E.

THE Editor of the following Memoirs has been long and frequently solicited to publish the life of Mr. Nicholas Ferrar, of which it was known that he once had a manuscript account in his possession. It now seems necessary to give a short history of this MS. and the reason why he has hitherto delayed his compliance with the solicitations that have been made to him.

He married the eldest daughter of Mr. Ed. Ferrar late of Huntingdon, who by his will left to him his books and papers. Among the latter was a manuscript life of Nicholas Ferrar, entitled, "The complete Church of England Man, &c." written out fair and prepared for the press, from authentic memoirs in the family, by the Rev. Mr. Francis Peck: a Gentleman well known to the

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literary

literary world by his publications relative to various articles of antiquity.

Soon after the death of Mr. Ed. Ferrar, which happened in 1769, the Rev. Mr. Jones, of Sheephall in the county of Hertford, then on a visit to the Editor at Huntingdon, requested the perusal of this manuscript, which was granted: and the Editor soon after went for some time with his family to Bath. On his return to Huntingdon, he was informed of the sudden death of Mr. Jones, occasioned by a fall from his horse.

Having made all possible enquiry after this MS. in the neighbourhood of Sheephall without effect, the Editor called upon a brother of Mr. Jones, who then lived near St. Clement's Church in the Strand, who undertook to recover and restore it. But he also was prevented doing any thing by his sudden death, which happened in a few days after this application.

Since that time the Editor has made all
the

the enquiry both public and private that was in his power, but all to no purpose. The loss, (probably the unjust detention) of this MS. was many years since made known to the public by Mr. Gough in his *British Topography*, as appears by the following extract from that work: in which it is to be wished that the Author had expressed himself with less disrespect of a family every way worthy of his admiration, though perhaps far above modern imitation.

“ Some account of a family that made much noise at the beginning of the civil wars, and was objected to Laud as an instance of his affection to Popery, may be seen in “ *The Arminian Nunnery: or a brief description and relation of the late erected Monastical place called the Arminian Nunnery, at Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire: humbly recommended to the wise consideration of this present Parliament. The foundation is by a company of Ferrars at Gidding. London, 1641, 4^{to}. reprinted by Hearne at the end of Langtoft’s Chronicle,*

Oxf. 1725, p. cxxiv. No. X." It was taken with unwarrantable alterations from a letter signed H.S. written by Edward Lenton to Sir Tho. Hedley, Knt. Serj. at Law, "on his request to certify as he (the letter writer) found concerning the reputed Nunnery at Gidding, Huntingdonshire; printed also by Hearne in the same book, p. cix. No. IX, and p. 702 of *Caii Vindiciæ*." The Editors of the Catalogue of Ld. Oxford's Pamphlets, seem to insinuate that Hearne did not reprint the former pamphlet with exactness. In p. 679 of the 2^d Vol. of *Caii Vindiciæ* are—"papers relating to this Protestant Nunnery transcribed and given to the publisher by Mr. John Worthington, to which are prefixed an epitaph to the memory of Dr. John Worthington *, (who preserved these papers) and some historical notes about the Ferrars, particularly that mirror of piety Mr. Nicholas Ferrar." Some more particulars of this *Useless Enthusiast* may be seen in Barnabas Oley's prefatory view of Herbert's

* President of Emanuel College—and Master of Jesus College, Cambridge, died 1671.

bert's Life, prefixed to Herbert's Country Parson: in Bp. Hacket's Life of ABp. Williams, part II. p. 50, and in Stevens's Abridgment of the same, 1715, p. 153. Dr. Turner, Bp. of Ely, had an intention of writing his Life, but what advances he made towards it does not appear†. Mr. Peck informs us that he himself composed a work, intitled, "The complete Church of England Man, exemplified in the holy Life of Mr. Nicholas Ferrar, of Little Gidding in the county of Huntingdon, Gent. commonly called the Protestant Saint Nicholas; and the pious Mr. Geo. Herbert's brother." But in whose hands these papers at present are, I have not been able to learn. Peck's papers in general are in the possession of Sir Tho. Cave. We might have expected some account of this remarkable person in the Biographia Britannica, where is only a slight note about him in the Supplement, p. 126‡.

This

† A Life of Mr. Ferrar, published in the Christian Magazine 1761, is said to be taken from Dr. Turner's papers.

‡ The note here referred to is upon Dr. John Mapletost

This religious family consisted of an old matron, widow of Nicholas Ferrar of London, merchant; two sons (of whom Nicholas during his travels had been strongly solicited to go over to the Church of Rome) an only daughter and her husband Mr. Collet, with their fifteen* children (of whom six daughters, and two sons were married) and three or four servants. They had a handsome house and chapel, with fine walks and gardens, and an estate of about 500*£*. a year, purchased by the mother. Thus declining all calling or employment that might render them useful in the world, which Nicholas accounted a † *Nothing between*
two

“ who was brought up at Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire, in the devout family of his maternal great uncle Nicholas Ferrar, Esq; who was his godfather.”

“ He received the impressions of Religion and Virtue very early, by the care of Mr. Ferrar, a Gentleman of the most remarkably distinguished piety; of which there are many extraordinary instances published by Mr. Hearne.” Then follows a short account of the Religious Exercises, the Harmonies, &c. of which more particular notice will be taken hereafter.

* Read eighteen.

† This expression was not Mr. Ferrar's, but Mr. Geo. Herbert's.

two dishes, they devoted their whole time to fasting, watching, prayer, and reading, accounting this method of worship, with some external ceremonies, as lighting of tapers, and performing certain prostrations, and genuflexions, the most perfect and acceptable service of God, and their best calling. Nicholas employed himself in compiling Scripture Harmonies, and Histories in his own and twenty-one other languages, with literal translations into Latin, of which see an account in Hearne's *Cani Vindiciæ*, p. 812, and his brother John's letter to Dr. Basire, for all the translations of the Bible that he could collect, p. 697. One of these patch work Harmonies, presented to ABp. Laud, was by him deposited in St. John's College Library, Oxford, adorned with variety of cuts, and entitled, "The whole Law of God, as it is delivered in the five books of Moses, methodically distributed into three great classes, moral, ceremonial, and political: and again, each of these subdivided into several heads, as the variety of the matter requires: wherein each particular subject, dis-

disperſedly related in the foreſaid books, is reduced to its proper head, and place: alſo every head of the political law referred to which precept of the moral law it properly belongs: to which are added ſundry pictures, expreſſing either the facts themſelves, or their types and figures, or other matters appertaining thereto. Done at Little Gidding anno 1640. Some remains of the maiden ſiſter's exerciſes, a parcel of rhapsodical, enthuſiaſtic converſations were printed by Hearne, ubi ſupra, p. 713. This family ended in two brothers, one living at Huntingdon, a Lawyer; the other, now dead, had a Life of Nicholas, but lent or miſlaid it, ſo that at preſent it cannot be found by the Rev. Mr. Peckard, who married their Siſter*.” Gough's Topographia Britannica.

Mr. Gough is under a miſtake with reſpect to the Harmony abovementioned, in ſuppoſing it to be done by Mr. N. Ferrar, ſen.

* Mr. Ferrar did not lend, or miſlay it, but left it by his will to Mr. Peckard, who married, not a ſiſter, but Mr. Ferrar's eldeſt daughter. He lent this MS. as is above related, to Mr. Jones, and it never was returned.

fen. who died in 1637. In Mr. Js. Walton's account of Mr. Ferrar, there are also some mistakes respecting dates, which, though not of any great consequence, may as well be set right. "About the 26th year of his age he betook himself to travel, &c." Mr. Ferrar was born Nov. 22, 1592, and went abroad in the retinue of the Princess Elizabeth in the year 1613, consequently he betook himself to travel in the 21st year of his age. "Mr. Ferrar's death was in the year 1639." This is also a mistake; he died on Monday, Dec. 2, 1637. It is also said that he translated Valdeffo's Considerations, &c. out of *Spanish* into English. Mr. Ferrar himself says in his Preface to that work, that he translated from the *Italian* copy, because the *Spanish*, either was not extant, or not easy to be found.

Having examined and compared with the original MS. still in my possession, a short Life of Mr. Ferrar published about 17 years since in the Gent. Mag. as also a longer account of him in the Christ. Magazine, published in the year 1761, and said to be the
Life

Life written by Dr. Turner, late Bp. of Ely; I think it my duty here to inform the public, that both these accounts, so far as they go, are authentic, and that it is in my power to prove their authenticity from the original MS. still existing. The papers of Dr. Turner are demonstrably taken either from this old family MS. or from some duplicate of it; as appears undeniably from whole sentences, and in some parts even whole paragraphs, that are word for word the same. There are indeed some additional observations, and reflections of his own, and some allusions to particular historical events, which do not occur in the original MS. but nothing that does in any degree hurt the authenticity of the narration. I am very sorry that I did not at the time know of that publication; as I should have been happy to have communicated to the Editors every assistance in my power, and to have supplied them with the means of having what they express an earnest wish for, a Print of this excellent man, from an original picture of him, by C. Johnson now presented by the family as an Heir loom to the Master's Lodge

Lodge in Magdalen College, Cambridge. The Authors of the Chr. Magazine say, that Bp. Turner, in his notes for his Preface, remarks that there was something γελαστικον, smiling, in his countenance. I think the picture, though at the same time expressive of composure and resignation, fully justifies the Bishop's observation.

Having now, after near twenty years fruitless enquiry, given up all hopes of recovering his property, the Editor nevertheless determines, as far as it is in his power, to gratify the solicitations of his friends with respect to the Life of Mr. Nich. Ferrar. And having found the original MS. from which Mr. Peck composed his work, entitled, "The complete Church of England Man exemplified in the holy Life of Mr. N. Ferrar," which is the work above spoken of as being lost, or dishonourably detained; as also some loose and unconnected papers of Mr. Peck's rough draught, he here humbly offers to the public the result of his investigation. And although he has thought it necessary sometimes to change an obsolete phrase for one
more

more modern, or to leave out some passages that might now appear of no weight, or to add now and then a few sentences for the sake of connection, yet in every thing of moment the present production is faithful to the original. If, where the subject naturally led to it, he has sometimes thrown in a comparison between the present mode of training youth, and the method observed in the time of Mr. Ferrar, he hopes it will not be considered as an unpardonable liberty, since no *particular* censure is intended, and the motive is a sincere regard to the interests of Religion and Virtue, which appear to be greatly injured by the modern System of Education.

The short accounts given of the particular persons named in the course of the narration, he thought might not be unacceptable, as they call to remembrance several worthy men celebrated in their time, though now almost lost in oblivion.

The arrangement where it is different from the original in point of method, and the

the alterations in the stile, are less than might have been expected with respect to an uncorrected and unfinished memoir, which was intended only as "*a direction to some historian*" who would undertake from it to transmit to posterity the life and virtues of a brother most worthy to be beloved and had in remembrance.

The Editor's intention in these alterations was to give, in the narration, what is not observed in the original, a regular series of facts: and through the whole a sort of evenness, and simplicity of stile equally free from meanness and affectation. In short, to make the old and the new, as far as he could, uniform; that he might not appear to have sewed a piece of new cloth to an old garment, and made its condition worse by his endeavours to mend it.

The Editor has reason to suspect that the Life written by Mr. Peck is still in being, and dishonourably detained. And as it has of late been very much the fashion to publish after the death of the party concerned

any

any thing, true or false, trifling or important, creditable or disgraceful, that can by any means be collected together; and as Printers may now be found who will readily undertake this unworthy occupation; he considers this as an additional motive to this publication; lest hereafter some mangled or defamatory materials should fall into the hands of these Assassins general of the Reputation of the Dead *.

* In the 35th Vol. of Baker's MSS. at p. 369, is an article entitled, Materials for writing the Life of Mr. N. Ferrar. This article Mr. Baker informs us is only an extract of a much larger account. Then follow 34 close written pages in folio of this extract; and at the end "N.B. This whole account, with the ten pages following, were all written by one, and are now in the hands of another of the family, by whose permission I took this copy, and being very authentic it may serve to correct whatever we have yet in print concerning this extraordinary man and his extraordinary way of living.

"The following account is to be inserted at p. 396, which I then thought would have been printed: not being printed, and having more time allowed me to copy it than I at first expected, it is here added to p. 396."

This account given in Mr. Baker's MS. is taken from the family MS. in my possession; as appear plainly from some *mutilated expressions*, and *dates unfinished* (as 162--- for 1624) which are the same in my MS. as in Mr. Baker's abstract.

John Brown, 1800-1860

John Brown, 1800-1860

John Brown, 1800-1860

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Nicholas Ferrar = Mary Wodenoth.

1 John Ferrar. 2 Erasmus Ferrar. 3 Nicholas Ferrar. 4 Rich. Ferrar. 5 Wm. Ferrar. 6 Susanna Ferrar; married to—Collet, Esq; and had 18 children. Thomas, Collet, Nicholas, Ferrar, Collet, John, Richard, Edward, John, Edward, Mary, Ann, Esther, Margaret, Elizabeth, Judith, Joyce, Susan.

1st Wife, Ann Shepherd = J. Ferrar = Bathsheba Owen, 2d Wife.

1 Nicholas Ferrar. Died unmarried, aged 21. 2 John Ferrar. 3 Mary Ferrar. 4 Virginia Ferrar.

John Ferrar = Ann Brook.

1 Brook Ferrar. 2 Ann Ferrar. married Butcher. 3 John F. 4 Thomas F. 5 Nicholas F. 6 Basil F. 7 Mary F. 8 Edward F.

Thomas = Martha Goddard

Edward = Martha Ivory.

1 Martha. 2 John. 3 Judith. 4 Thomas.

1 Edward. married Beverley. Had 2 Sons, died Infants. 2 Martha. 3 John. 4 John. 5 Ivory. 6 Hugh. married 1. Rust. 2. Currier. 3. Carrier. 4. Barnes. 7 Martha married Sherard, Esq;

Edward Ferrar = Love Beverley.

1 Martha married Peckard. 2 Anne. 3 Amelis. 4 Love. 5 Beverley married T. Woods, Esq;

Ferrar; married to—Collet, Esq; and had 18 children.
 Thomas, Collet, Nicholas, Ferrar, Collet, John,
 Richard, Edward, John, Edward, Mary, Ann,
 Esther, Margaret, Elizabeth, Judith, Joyce, Susan.

7 Mary F. 8 Edward F.

↓

Edward = Martha Ivory.

↓

1.	2	3	4	5	6	7
erley.	Martha.	John.	John.	Ivory.	Hugh.	Martha
died					married	married
					1. Rust.	Sherard,
					2. Currier.	Esq;
					3. Carrier.	
					4. Barnes.	

4 Love. 5 Beverley

 married

 T. Woods, Esq;

M E M O I R S, &c.

IN the following memoirs the reader must not expect any thing that is generally esteemed brilliant and entertaining. He will not find here any description of amorous intrigues, or political machinations; any account of persons of high rank, ruined by fashionable vices, or of low and sordid profligates by every base art rising to distinction; of wily and unprincipled Statesmen trampling under foot the laws of Justice and Honour, or inventors of new arts for the destruction of the human race; no praise is here bestowed on ironical and sarcastic underminers of the credit of Christianity, or discoverers of unknown countries to be hereafter plundered and enslaved.

— No place is here given to the ravages of

A

Ambi-

Ambition; to the exploits of a Joseph, or a Catherine subverting the natural and civil rights of man, and wading to the throne of Tyranny through deluges of human blood. These pages contain only the private virtues of a private man; of a man endowed indeed with abilities to have adorned the highest station, but of humility hardly to be found in the lowest; of a man devoting himself as it were from very infancy to the adoration of God, and persisting with unremitted ardour in that solemn dedication of his faculties to the last moment of his life.

Mr. Nicholas Ferrar, though not of exalted rank himself, was of a family highly respectable for that real merit which surpasses antiquity of descent or nobility of title, a family illustrious for virtue. Nor was their virtue unattended with those external claims to worldly respect, which alas! are sometimes esteemed of superior value.

Gualkeline, or Walkeline de Ferrariis, a Norman of distinction, came into England with William the Conqueror. To Henry de Ferrariis, the second of this family, William gave Tutbury and other Castles; and more than a hundred and eighty Lordships*. In process of time the family became very numerous; founded several religious houses; had the honour of Peerage; and different branches of it were settled in many different counties.

One line was long since established in Yorkshire, from which was descended Nicholas, the father of that Nicholas to whose memory these imperfect memoirs are dedicated. He was very nearly related to that pious and resolute martyr Rob^t. Ferrar, Bp: of St. Davids, who sealed the truth of the Protestant Religion with his blood, and with these remarkable words after his condemnation

* In Co. Staff. 114; Co. Der. 25; Co. Buck. 22; Co. Oxon. 7; Co. Essex 5; Co. Wilt. 3; Co. Linc. 6; Co. Gloucest. 2; and several in the County of Nottingham.

demnation to the stake, “ If you see me stir in the fire, believe not the doctrine I have taught †.”

Nicholas Ferrar the father was brought up in the profession of a Merchant Adventurer, and traded very extensively to the East and West Indies, and to all the celebrated

† Richard Jones, a Knight's son, coming to Bp. Ferrar a little before his execution, lamented the painfulness of the death he had to suffer. To whom the Bp. answered, that if he saw him stir in the pains of his burning, he should then give no credit to his doctrine. And as he said so he right well performed the same. For so patiently he stood that he never moved: but even as he stood holding up his stumps, so still he continued till one Richard Gravel with a staff dashed him upon the head, and so stroke him down. Mar. 30, 1555, Fox, Mart.

This resolute spirit in these dreadful moments may seem in some degree to justify Bp. Goodwyn's censure, who describes Bp. Ferrar as a man of an unbending and intractable disposition — *blandiri nescius, multo minus dissimulare, pro innata asperitate liberè satis ad interrogata respondens, ne dicam protervè, Wintoniensem suapte natura satis crudelem, adeo irritavit, ut non mirer si durius cum illo actum fuerit.* Yet, though this Bishop may not wonder at it, surely it is hard indeed that an Innocent man, merely for speaking freely in the cause of Truth, should be condemned to so horrible a Death by a furious Bigot, equally a stranger to Justice and Compassion.

brated feats of Commerce. He lived in high repute in the City, where he joined in commerical matters with Sir Tho^s. and Sir Hugh Middleton, and Mr. Bateman. He was a man of liberal hospitality, but governed his house with great order. He kept a good table at which he frequently received persons of the greatest eminence, Sir John Hawkins, Sir Francis Drake, Sir Walter Rawleigh, and others with whom he was an adventurer: and in all their expeditions he was ever in the highest degree attentive to the planting the Christian Religion in the New World. At home also he was a zealous friend to the established Church, and always ready to supply his prince with what was required of him. He lent 300£. at once upon a privy seal: a sum at that time not inconsiderable. He had the honour of being written Esq; by Q. Elizabeth: and the exemplification of his Arms, is still in the family.

He married Mary Wodenoth, daughter of Laurence Wodenoth, Esq; of the ancient
A 3 family

family of that name, of Savington Hall in Cheshire, where her ancestors in lineal descent had enjoyed that Lordship near five hundred years, and were allied to the principal families of that country.

Mary Wodenoth was surpassed by none in comeliness of body or excellence of beauty. She was of modest and sober deportment, and of great prudence. Of few words, yet when she spoke, Bp. Lindsel was used to say of her, he knew no woman superior to her in eloquence, true judgment or wisdom, and that few were equal to her in charity towards man, or piety towards God.

This worthy couple lived together many years in harmony and happiness, perfecting their holiness in the fear of God, and in the conscientious practice of every duty. They saw descended from them a numerous, and a virtuous family, of whose education they took uncommon care. They did not spoil their children by absolutely sparing the rod, but what occasional severity they judged to be

be necessary was so softened by tenderness and affection, as to produce not only the fear of doing amiss, but the love of doing well. And certainly the same method would even in the present age produce beneficial or prevent pernicious effects. When moral discipline, as in these our enlightened days, is entirely neglected, we have reason to look forward to the worst consequences. And when reprehension is joined with austerity it always fails of its pretended purpose; but when it plainly appears to proceed from affection, there is scarce a disposition to be found so obstinate that it will not soon become tractable. The little instances of corrective discipline exercised by these affectionate parents in the beginning of the seventeenth century, would perhaps excite the derision of the fastidious reader at the end of the eighteenth; they are therefore omitted. Nevertheless they were well calculated to impress the tender mind with a reverential awe for the Supreme Being; with obedience to parents, and instructors; with universal and disinterested benevolence;

with modesty, with humility, and a proper sense of subordination; with an abhorrence of all vice, but particularly of every species of falshood. Thus did their censures tend to form and produce virtuous and valuable Citizens. How unlike is this plan! and how far superior to that of a profligate Nobleman, whose leading principles of Education are dissimulation, falshood, and perfidy; and, in the stead of virtue, a spurious honour that is consistent, and can assimilate itself with every thing base, dishonourable and vicious. In this school are formed our modern youths of polished manners, our men of Gallantry, our men of Gaiety,

But save me from the Gaiety of those
 Whose head-achs nail them to a noontide bed,
 And save me too from theirs, whose haggard eyes
 Flash desperation, and betray their pangs
 For property stripp'd off by cruel chance:
 From Gaiety that fills the bones with pain
 The mouth with blasphemy, the heart with woe.

COWPER.

The children born to these virtuous parents were

I. Su-

1. Susanna, married to Mr. Collet of Bourne Bridge, in Cambridgeshire, by whom he had eighteen children.

2. John, who married, first, Anne, daughter of Wm. Shepherd, Esq; of Great Rowlywright in the county of Oxford; by whom he had no issue: secondly, Bathsheba, daughter of Israel Owen of London, Gent. by whom he had issue, Mary, who died young, Nicholas, John, and Virginia,

3. Erasmus, a Barrister of Law,

4. Nicholas, the subject of these memoirs.

5. William, a Barrister.

6. Richard, a Merchant of London, and several daughters who all died young.

They were all constantly trained in virtue and religion. Their daily practice was to read, and to speak by memory some portion of the Scriptures, and parts of the book of martyrs: they were also made acquainted with such passages of History as were suited to their tender years. They were all instructed in Music; in performing on the Organ, Viol, and Lute, and in the Theory
and

and Practice of Singing: in the learned, and modern languages; in curious Needle-works, and all the accomplishments of that time. The young men, when arrived at years of discretion, had permission each to choose his profession, and then no expence was spared to bring him to a distinguished excellence in it. For this was an invariable maxim with the Parents, that having laid a firm foundation in religion and virtue, they would rather give them a good Education without wealth, than wealth without a good Education.

The Parish Church and Chancel of St. Bennet Sherhog* in London, Mr. Ferrar repaired

* This Church was destroyed by the great Fire, in which also perished an elegant monument for the time, erected to the memory of Ann, first wife of John Ferrar, a painting of which is still in the possession of the Editor of these memoirs.

Stowe, in his Survey of London, describing St. Bennet Sherhog, says, There is a fair monument on the East wall of the Chancel, with the following inscription,

Grace, and Religion, with the best of Nature
All striving to excell, yet All agreeing

To

repaired and decently seated at his own expence: and as there was not any morning preacher there, he brought from the country Mr. Francis White, and made him their first Lecturer. Mr. White was afterwards advanced to the See of Ely.

When a stranger preached, Mr. Ferrar
always

To make One absolute and perfect Creature —
Wou'd any see a sight so worth the seeing?
He comes too late: here she lies buried,
With whom they lately liv'd, and now are dead.

In the vault hereby
Lieth buried the body of Ann, the wife of John Ferrar,
Gentleman and Merchant Adventurer of this City:
daughter of Wm. Shepherd, Esq; of Great Rowlywright
in the Co. of Oxenford. She departed this Life, July
12, 1613, being then about the age of twenty one years.
To whose well deserving memory, this monument is by
her said husband erected.

A small gilt engraven plate fastened under the monument has the following inscription.

Here was a bud beginning for her May
Before her flower, death took her hence away.
But for what cause? that friends might joy the more;
Where their hope is, she flourisheth now before.
She is not lost, but in those joys remains
Where friends may see, and joy in her again.

always invited him to dinner, and if it was discovered that he was in any necessity, he never departed without a handsome present. In truth they never were without a Clergyman as a companion in their house, or even on their journeys, as they always accustomed themselves to morning and evening prayer,

Nicholas Ferrar, the third son of this worthy couple, was born the * 22d and christened the 23d of Feb. 1592, in the parish of St. Mary Stayning in Mark Lane, London. His Godfathers do not appear. His Godmother was a Mrs. Riggs, wife to Cap. Riggs, who recommended herself highly to the esteem of Q. Elizabeth, by an Heroick act which she performed upon the Sea-shore at Dover in 1588, as her story relates at large †.

He

* In Dr. Turner's life of Mr. Ferrar, published in the Christian Magazine, 1761, the day of his birth is said to be Feb. 1, but this I have reason to think is erroneous.

† In a short discourse concerning the Spanish Armada,

He was a beautiful child of a fair complexion, and light coloured hair. At four years of age he was sent to school, being of a tractable disposition and lively parts. At five he could read perfectly, or repeat with propriety and grace a chapter in the Bible, which the parents made the daily exercise of their children. By the brightness of his parts, and the uncommon strength of his memory he attained with great ease and quickness whatsoever he set himself to learn; yet was he also remarkably studious; being a rare instance of the union of the brightest parts with the most intense industry. From the early possession of his mind with ideas of piety and virtue, and a love
for

mada, translated from the French by Dan. Archdeacon, and printed at London by John Wolfe, 1588, it is said, "that the English Fireships so terrified the Spaniards, as they lay fast at Anchor near Calais, that they sought every man to help himself; hewing, and flipping their Cables, and leaving their Anchors behind them. Yea, and some ran aground upon one shore, and *some upon the other*, and some sunk, and other some were taken, with divers of their men, some of them of great name." Probably this was the time, and the scene of Mrs. Rigg's Heroick Act, but the relation of her story at large, I have not yet been able to find.

for historical information, the Bible in his very early years became to him the book above all others most dear and estimable; and next to this in his esteem was Fox's book of Martyrs, from which he could repeat perfectly the history of his near kinsman Bp. Ferrar. And when in his riper years he undertook the instruction of the family, he constantly exercised them also in the reading and in the study of these two books. He was particularly fond of all historical relations, and when engaged in this sort of reading, the day did not satisfy him, but he would borrow from the night; insomuch that his mother would frequently seek him out, and force him to partake of some proper recreation. Hence, even in his childhood, his mind was so furnished with historical anecdotes, that he could at any time draw off his schoolfellows from their play, who would eagerly surround him, and with the utmost attention listen to his little tales, always calculated to inspire them with a love of piety and goodness, and excite in them a virtuous imitation.

When

When he was very young he was entered into Latin at London, at the desire of his Master, though others thought it too soon: but he was so eager and diligent in his application that he soon surpassed all his companions. [orig. MS. all his much attainments.]

He was of a grave disposition, and very early shewed a great dislike of every thing that favoured of worldly vanity. In his apparel he wished to be neat, but refused all that was not simple and plain. When bands were making for the children, he earnestly entreated his mother that his might not have any lace upon them, like those of his brothers, but be made little and plain, like those of Mr. Wotton, "for I wish to be a preacher as he is." Mr. Wotton was a learned Divine, and reader of Divinity in Gresham College. He was frequently at Mr. Ferrar's, and always examined, and exercised young Nicholas, being wonderfully delighted with his ingenuity*.

He

* After the Canons of the Convocation came forth
A.D.

He was good natured and tender hearted to the highest degree; so fearful of offending any one, that upon the least apprehension of having given displeasure, he would suddenly weep in the most submissive manner, and appear extremely sorry. His temper was lovely, his countenance pleasing: his constitution was not robust, but he was active, lively, and chearful. Whatsoever he went about he did it with great spirit, and with a diligence and discretion above his years.

And now the parents were informed by
their

A.D. 1604, Mr. Anthony Wotton (a very learned and discrete man) was inhibited to preach by Dr. Rich. Bancroft then Bp. of London. Among other things which he was charged with as having uttered out of his Chair, the following sentence was objected to (which I have set down as I had it from the mouth of Mr. Roger Fenton, Parson of St. Stephen's Walbrook, when the matter was fresh and green, and not many hours old) viz. "God open the eyes of the King, that he may be resolved in the Truth without respect of Antiquity." This speech was thus construed, 1st. That the King was blind. 2d. That he is wavering. 3d. That he favoureth Popery.

From the MS. collections of Mr. Abr. Fleming in my hands. F. P.

FRANCIS PECK:

their friends, and by Mr. Francis his school-master, that it was time to send him to some greater school where he might have a better opportunity to improve himself in the Latin tongue. It was thereupon resolved to send him and his brother William to Euborn, near Newberry in Berkshire, to the house of Mr. Brooks, an old friend, who had many other pupils, who was a religious and good man, but a strict Disciplinarian*.

While preparations were making for this journey, an event took place which made the deepest and most lively impression upon the mind of young Nicholas, and strongly marks his character, and the bent of his disposition. He was but six years of age, and being one night unable to sleep, a fit of Scepticism seized his mind, and gave him the

* Rob. Brooks, M.A. was instituted Vicar of St. Olave Jewry, Aug. 27, 1593, being thereunto presented by the Crown. Newcourt, Vol. I. p. 515, and Rec. of Wodeham Walter in Essex, Dec. 12, 1619. Vol. II. p. 605. F.P.

the greatest perplexity and uneasiness. He doubted Whether there was a God? and if there was, What was the most acceptable mode of serving him? In extreme grief he rose at midnight, cold, and frosty, and went down to a grass plat in the garden, where he stood long time sad and pensive, musing, and thinking seriously upon the great doubt which thus extremely perplexed him. At length throwing himself on his face upon the ground, and spreading out his hands, he cried aloud, Yes, there is, there must be a God: and he, no question, if I duly and earnestly seek it of him, will teach me not only how to know, but how to serve him acceptably. He will be with me all my life here, and at the end will hereafter make me happy.

These are exalted, and wonderful sentiments for a child of six years old: and this anecdote may influence the reader to give credit to those sublime ecstasies of Devotion which he experienced and expressed at the close of his Life.

His

His doubts now vanished, his mind became easy, and he returned to his apartment: but the remembrance of what he felt on this occasion made him ever after strongly commiserate all who laboured under any religious doubt, or despair of mind. And in the future course of his life he had repeated opportunities to exert his benevolence to those who experienced a similar unhappiness.

In the year 1598, he was sent to Euborn School, near Newberry in Berkshire, where he made such a rapid progress in Latin, Greek, and Logic, that he soon became the first Scholar of his years. He strengthened his memory by daily exercise: he was a great proficient in writing and arithmetic, and attained such excellence in short hand, as to be able to take accurately a Sermon or Speech on any occasion. He was also well skilled both in the Theory and Practice of Vocal and Instrumental Music.

Thus accomplished, in his fourteenth
 B. 2 year,

year, his master, Mr. Brooks, prevailed with his parents to send him to Cambridge, whither he himself attended him, and admitted him of Clare Hall, presenting him, with due commendation of his uncommon abilities to Mr. Augustin Lindfell *, the Tutor, and Dr. Wm. Smith, then Master of the College.

His parents thought proper, notwithstanding the remonstrance of some friends against it, to admit him a Pensioner for the first year; as they conceived it more for his good, to rise by merit gradually to honour. In this situation, by excellent demeanour, and diligent application to his studies, he
fo

* Augustin Lindfell, A.M. Fellow of Clare Hall, was born at Bumsted in Essex: bred Scholar and Fellow in the said Hall, where he became well studied in Greek, Hebrew, and in all Antiquity. He was Prebendary of Durham, and, by the favour of Ld. Treasurer Portland, Dean of Litchfield in 1628, Bishop of Peterborough in 1632, and of Hereford in 1633. He was a man of very great learning; of which he gave sufficient proof by setting forth an excellent edition of Theophylact upon St. Paul's Epistles. Fast. Oxon. Vol. I. col. 198. Ed. 2. F. P.

so deported himself in all things, and to all persons, that he instantly gained the affections and applause of all who knew him, performing all his exercises with distinguished approbation.

Mr. Lindfell spared not to make full proof of his abilities, wishing, as he was used to express himself, to see his Inside, as well as his Outside. He therefore made many trials of his abilities, which the rest of the Fellows thought unreasonable; saying it was a shame to spur a fleet horse, which already outwent the Rider's own desire, and won every race he put him to. When they urged that he required impossibilities, he would reply, content yourselves a little, you shall see what the boy can do, and that too without much trouble. These proofs of wonderful abilities were continually repeated, and he thus went on from day to day improving in all good learning. His attention and diligence was such, that it was observed, his chamber might be known by the candle that was last put out

at night, and the first lighted in the morning. Nor was he less diligent in his attendance at Chapel, than at his studies, so that his piety and learning went on hand in hand together.

In his second year he became Fellow-Commoner, and being now every day more and more the companion of the Fellows, he every day became more and more esteemed by them. In 1610*, he took his degree of Bachelor of Arts. At this time he was appointed to make the speech on the King's Coronation day (July 25) in the College Hall; and the same year he was elected Fellow of that Society.

If we take a view of him at this period when he became Fellow, we shall find that his natural parts were wonderfully improved, his memory so enlarged and strengthened, that he had read nothing of worth,

* Nicolaus Ferrar, Aulæ Clarenfis A. B. Anno 1610
e Regist. Ac. Baker MS. F. P.

worth, but he had made it his own, and could always instantly apply it to the present occasion. He spoke also and wrote, and argued with such ingenious dexterity that very few indeed were equal to him. Nevertheless he was still so eager in the pursuit of farther acquisitions, that Industry and Genius seemed to be incorporated in him. Nor was he more attentive to his own instruction, than to the happiness of all with whom he was concerned. For he was a constant and indefatigable promoter of Peace: and when any difference had arisen, he had the art so to win upon each side, that he would draw the contending parties from their unfriendly resolutions, and reanimate and establish harmony between them. Mr. Lindsell was used to say of him, May God keep him in a right mind! For if he should turn Schismatic, or Heretic, he would make work for all the world. Such a head, such power of argument! such a tongue, and such a pen! such a memory withal he hath, with such indefatigable pains, that, all these joined together,

ther, I know not who would be able to contend with him.

His constitution was of feminine delicacy, and he was very subject to aguish disorders; yet he bore them out in a great measure by his temperance, and by a peculiar courageousness of spirit which was natural to him. His favourite Sister, married to Mr. Collet, lived at Bourn Bridge, near Cambridge. And as the air of Cambridge was found not well to agree with him, he made frequent excursions to Bourn Bridge, where he passed his time in the pursuit of his studies, and in the instruction of his Sister's children.

But his Tutor, Mr. Lindfell, Mr. Ruggle*, and others of the Fellows having
now

* Mr. Ruggle wrote the Latin comedy of Ignoramus, which was several times acted before K. James I. at Cambridge, and Royston with great applause. At one of which times the King cried out Treason, Treason. And being asked what was the matter, said, he believed the Author, and the Actors together had a design to make him laugh himself to death. Another time when
the

now apprehension of his health, carried him to Dr. Butler, the celebrated Physician, of Cambridge, who had been of Clare Hall, and was a particular friend of Mr. Lindfell. Dr. Butler conceived a great affection for Mr. Ferrar, and exerted all his skill; yet still the disorder encreased more and more upon him; and at length this good Physician said, Why should I give thee any more prescriptions? all I can do will not conquer this distemper. Alas! all I can say is, you must henceforth deal with this disorder when it comes to you, as men do with beggars,

the King was seated, and expected the Scholars to perform, he was surprised with the sound of a horn, and the appearance of a Post-boy, who said that Ignoramus was ready to perform his part, but that none of the Lawyers would lend him a Gown to act in. Ah! said the King (who was deceived, and took the Scholar for a real Post-boy) this is a plot of Cukes! (meaning the *Ld. C. Justice Coke*.) But if Cuke won't let the Lawyers lend him a Gown, by my Saul, man, he shall lend him his own. This speech of the King put the audience into an exceeding merry humour, and the Play went on. But it is suggested that the Play of Ignoramus acted at Cambridge, 1614, occasioned Mr. Selden's history of Tithes published, 1616, in order to be even with the Clergy. See Loyd's Memoirs, Fol. p. 520. F.P.

gars, when they have a mind to difuse them from their houfes, give them nothing but let them go as they came. You muft through a fpare diet, and great temperance even all your life long, feek to be quit of this unhappy companion: he muft be ftarved away.

For fome time after this Mr. Ferrar grew better, but foon relapsed again, and in the autumn of 1612, he began to grow very ill. His friends now feared he would not get over the winter. Dr. Butler faid, I can do no more for him, the laft remedy, or hope I can give you is from the change of air. He muft go in the fpring to travel. I doubt not but I can keep him up this winter, and if travel recover him not, nothing will. Befides, it is high time his mind be taken off from thefe his inceffant ftudies; thefe alone, if he be permitted to go on, will fpeedily deftroy his conftitution. The courfe I propofe may prolong his life till he is thirty five years of age; but longer, in my judgment, it will not laft. In the
mean

mean time he will live to do great Good. And think not that his time spent in travel will be lost; no: depend upon it he will improve himself greatly. Mr. Lindsell go your way; think of it: persuade his parents to it. I can say no more to you. Let him go next spring. I will take care of him this winter. And so he did most affectionately*.

Mr.

* Dr. Butler was one of the most celebrated Physicians of his time; the King it is said wished him to attend the Prince of Wales in his last illness. He survived his friendly care of Mr. Ferrar but a few years: as appears from the inscription upon his monument in Great St. Mary's Church, Cambridge.

Gulielmus Butlerus, Clarenfis Aulæ quondam socius
Medicorum omnium, quos præfens vidit ætas, facile Princeps
Hoc sub marmore secundum Christi adventum expectat.
Ei monumentum hoc privata pietas statuit, quod debuit publica.
Abi, Viator, ad tuos reversus, narra te vidisse locum in quo Salus jacet.

Nil pro! marmor agis Butlerum dum tegis, illum

Si splendore tuo Nomen habere putas.

Ille tibi monumentum, tu digneris ab illo,

Butleri vivis munere Marmor iners.

Sic homines vivus, sic mira, mortuus, arte

Phœbo chare senex, vivere saxa facis.

In a small brass Plate below

Butlero Heroum hoc posuere Dolorq; Fidesq;
Hei! quid agam exclamas et palles, Lector? at unum
Quod miseris superesse potest, locus hic monet, Ora.

Obiit 1617. Jan: 29. Ætatis suæ 83.

Round his Bust

Nunc positis Novus exuviis.

Monu^a Aug: by J. Le Neve. Vol. IV. p. 64.

Mr. Ferrar was now almost seven years standing in the University, and was to take his Master of Arts degree at the ensuing Midsummer, 1613; and he had already performed with great credit all his previous exercises.

It being made known to the Heads of the University that he was to travel, and to have the opportunity of going with that noble company which then went with the Lady Elizabeth to conduct her to the Palatinate with the Palsgrave her husband, it was propounded that he might have the favour of Cap, and Hood immediately, though before the usual time, so as to be compleat Master of Arts, before his departure, which was readily granted, and immediately his Graces were given him†. And now many came to present their most affectionate wishes to him for health and happiness in his travels. And thus he bad Cambridge Adieu!

Being

† Nicolaus Ferrar, Aulæ Clarenfis A. M. anno 1613.
e Regif. Ac. — T. Baker.

Being come to the end of Mr. Ferrar's Academical Life, I will here insert a Letter from Dr. Byng, a cotemporary in the same society, as a collateral testimony of his uncommon abilities and exemplary conduct during the whole time of his Collegiate Education.

Dr. Rob. Byng to Mr. Barnabas Oley.

Sir,

Concerning the request in your second Letter, I wish I was as able as I am willing to deliver the choicest virtues of our dear and worthy friend Mr. N. Ferrar unto posterity: whom as I truly loved whilst he lived, so I am one that shall ever honour his blessed memory.

As for the time of his admission into our College of Clare Hall, he was, as I did then guess by his stature and dimensions about thirteen years of age, when yet his deportment was such as spake him more a man than many are at four and twenty: there
was

was so sweet a mixture in him of gravity with affability, and modesty with civility.

After the commendable performances of his Acts in Scholis Publicis, it pleased the University to grace him with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. And his worth was so well known in the College, that he was selected to make the Oration upon the Coronation day (as I remember) after his proceeding; which he performed with great applause. And the then Master of the College, Dr. Smith, was thereupon so taken with him, that he was pleased to ask a near friend of his, whether the young Gentleman did intend to continue in the life of a Scholar. And receiving answer, that it was his settled resolution, he was not nice to express his good opinion of him to be such as he thought him well worthy to be elected into our Society. Wherein he shewed himself to be most real, by making choice of him at the very next election, with the unanimous consent of all the Co-electors then present at the meeting for that purpose.

From

From that time to the taking of his next degree he was a constant Resident with us in our College; during which space his comportment was such in all respects, as that it was exemplary not only to his Puiſſnes, and Compeers, but to many who were much his Antients, who were all ſo much pleaſed with his company, as that they thought themſelves happieſt, who moſt enjoyed it.

As he was ever a moſt conſtant Student, ſo none more careful to give his attendance on the College Chapel at times of Prayer, where he did ſo frequently officiate * himſelf in perſon, as if he had been the College Conductor, and bound to perform that exerciſe ex officio. Whereas he was tied thereunto only for a week when it came to his turn.

Soon

* Mr. Ferrar was not yet in Deacons orders: ſo that this account of his officiating in the Chapel, muſt be admitted as a fault of the Times: too many perſons in thoſe days taking upon them both to read the Service, and to preach before they went into Orders. F. P.

Soon after his admission *ad incipiendum in artibus* (to the best of my remembrance) and before his creation in *majoribus comitiis* (having obtained leave both from his parents and the College) he began his travels into foreign parts. Where, how long he continued, his brother Mr. John Ferrar can best inform you. But so well did he improve the time that he spent therein, as that beside the knowledge which he had gained in the principal of the Western Languages, Low and High Dutch, Italian, French and Spanish, he was able to make relation observable of the most remarkable passages which had been incident to any of those places where he had made any considerable abode: as myself, with many others who had the happiness to hear him discourse thereof, can give due testimony.

From the time of his return unto the College, as he continued ever an indefatigable Student, so he was an extraordinary Proficient, as having attained within a few years unto that degree of knowledge in
 Divinity,

Divinity, that he did not only overtake, but get the start of many who were much his antients, and such as were worthily held in reputation for their great learning by the ablest Divines both in the College and the University. Which was the less to be wondered at in our worthy friend, because as he was of a very sharp wit, and most clear comprehension, so also of a most solid judgment, and retaining memory. By means whereof he could fully render the resultance of any author he had gone through, as myself can testify amongst others of his consorts. In which respect as he had not many peers, so he had few who could compare with him for his exact skill in the Book of Books, the Holy Scriptures; which he made from his cradle, as I may say, so familiar to him by his daily and diligent reading, and meditating thereon, as that he was able to turn readily to any place without the help of a Concordance.

Certes, Sir, to give him his due Commendation, I may truly say that he was

C

Homo

Homo perpaucorum hominum, et ad omnia natus.

In all which respects as he was eminent whilst he was a Commorant in the University, so he gave full demonstration thereof to his dearest and nearest friends at Little Gidding, where in his last and best times he was a burning and a shining Light. And therefore I advise the writer* of his Life to repair to such of his friends as are there yet living, who are able to furnish him with such store of choice materials, and so exactly squared unto his hands as they will both head and bed (as our country masons used to speak) in the goodly structure which he is now erecting for the preservation of his precious memory here on earth, who now shines more gloriously inter stellas primæ magnitudinis among the ever-blessed Saints in the highest heavens.

Tuus ex amino

Ashington Com. Wilts
Idibus Septembris 1654.

Robertus Byng.

To

* This passage shews that Mr. Barnabas Oley knew the person who intended to write the Life of Mr. Ferrar, and that Mr. Oley himself was not the Writer. F. P.

To his much respected friend Mr. Oley, at Mr. Garthwaites, Stationer, at the North door of St. Pauls. These present.

All things being settled with respect to his going abroad, Mr. Ferrar left the following written Farewel to his family, which his mother found in his study a few days after he was gone.

“ Since there is nothing more certain than Death, nor more uncertain than the time when; I have thought it the first and chiefest wisdom for a man to prepare himself for that which must one day come, and always be ready for that which may every hour happen: especially considering how dangerous any error is here, which cannot be amended: neither is any one the nearer to Death for having prepared for it. It is then a thing of exceeding madness and folly to be negligent in so weighty a matter, in respect whereof all other things are trifles. I here confess my own wretchedness and folly in this, that through the common

c 2

hope

hope of youth, I have set Death far from me: and perswading myself that I had a long way to go, have walked more carelessly than I ought. The good Lord God be merciful unto me.

Indeed I have a long way to run, if Death stood still at the end of threescore years: but God knows if he be not running against me, if he be not ready to grasp me, especially considering the many dangers wherein I am now to hazard myself, in every one whereof Death dwells. If God be mercifull to me, and bring me safe home again, I will all the days of my life serve him in his Tabernacle, and in his holy Sanctuary.

I hope he who hath begun this mind in me will continue it, and make me to walk so as I may be always ready for him, when he shall come either in the public judgment of all the world, or in private judgment to me by Death. This is my purpose and this shall be my labour.

And

And you, my most dear Parents, if God shall take me from you, I beseech you be of good comfort, and be not grieved at my Death, which I undoubtedly hope shall be to me the beginning of Eternal Happiness. It was God that gave me to you, and if he take me from you, be not only content but joyfull that I am delivered from the vale of misery. This God that hath kept me ever since I was born, will preserve me to the end, and will give me grace to live in his faith, to die in his favour, to rest in his peace, to rise in his power, and to reign in his glory.

I know, my most dear parents, your tender affections towards your children, and fear your grief if God take me away. I therefore write and leave this, that you might know your son's estate, and assure yourselves that though he be dead to you, yet he is alive to God.

I now most humbly beseech you to pardon me in whatsoever I may have at any

time displeased you: and I pray God to bless and keep you: to give you a happy Life here, and everlasting in the world to come.

Your most humble and obedient Son

N. Ferrar.

Postscript,

My dearest brothers and sisters, If I live you shall find me a faithfull and loving brother unto you all: if I die, I beseech you by the fear of God, by the duty to your parents, by the bond of nature, by the love you bear me, that you all agree in perfect love and amity; and account every one the other's burthen to be his; so may plenty and prosperity dwell among you. So prays your faithfull and loving brother

N. Ferrar.

If I die, I desire that the value of 5*l*. of my books may be given to the College: the rest I leave to my Fathers and Mothers disposing: yet I desire that in them my worthy Tutor Lindsel and Cousin Theophilus may be remembered: and if any of my sisters
sons

sons prove a scholar, the rest may be given to him.

This 10th day of April, being Sunday."

His parents consent, and the College license obtained, and the favour of the University granted with respect to his degree, Mr. Ferrar prepared to set out upon his travels. A course of life undertaken upon Dr. Butler's counsel, for the restoration of his health, and to take him off from his incessant application to his studies. He also himself had a desire to see foreign countries for the farther acquisition of Knowledge. And as he well understood the grounds of the Protestant Religion, and was convinced of its truth on Scriptural Authority, as he had read most of the Fathers, and Controversial Writings between the Church of England and the Church of Rome, and as he had a memory so retentive, that he forgot nothing which he had read, but was able at all times, to bring it forth, and apply it to the present occasion, being thus armed before hand against whatever might

occur, and relying wholly upon the mercy of God to protect him, with the most virtuous resolutions of heart he set out upon his travels.

His Tutor Lindfell solemnly protested that had he not perfectly known his wonderful abilities and uncommon virtue, he should not in these so tender years of his pupil have been a promoter of his travelling in the manner he did, all alone; but would have provided some worthy tutor to attend him. He knew that in all virtue Nicholas Ferrar was an old man, so firmly fixed in his religious principles that there was no fear of his being seduced by any thing that he should hear or see. He knew that the stock of learning, wisdom and religion which he carried out with him, would be encreased at his return.

With these encouragements did Mr. Lindfell appease the fears and tender anxieties of his parents at parting with him: for they bad him farewell under the dread of
never

never seeing him again. And indeed not without reason: for he was then far from being recovered of his aguish disorder: but Dr. Butler said the Sea would remove it, and they would soon hear that he was freed from his infirmity.

Sometime before this, Dr. Scot*, the King's sub-almoner, was made Master of Clare Hall, in the place of Dr. Smith† removed to be Provost of Kings. He conceived a high respect and affection for Nicholas Ferrar, and undertook that he should be introduced to the Lady Elizabeth, to go in her company and retinue; she being now ready to depart with the Prince Palgrave her husband, who were to go first to Zealand, then to Holland, and from thence home to the Palatinate. Dr. Scot therefore took Mr. Ferrar to Court, to kiss her Royal Highness.

* Rob. Scot S.T.P. was made Master of Clare Hall in 1612; installed Dean of Rochester July 13, 1615, and died in December, 1620. Le Neve.

† William Smith S.T.P. Master of Clare Hall, was made Provost of Kings, August 22, 1612, and died Mar. 26, 1615. Le Neve. F. P.

Highness' hand: not now in the garb of a Scholar, but habited as one of the Gentlemen who belonged to her. As for him he took no delight in these gay garments, but submitted from a sense of propriety to be thus clad, and to satisfy his friends more than himself. Dr. Scot also introduced him, and procured him the knowledge and acquaintance of the whole attendance of the English Courtiers who then went with the Lady Elizabeth.

Being now provided with his bills of Exchange, he went in the same ship with the Master of the Green Cloth, who took an especial liking to him. They arrived happily at Flushing, where the Royal Fleet landed their Passengers. And in this voyage Mr. Ferrar found the benefit of the Sea air, which, as Dr. Butler told him it would, cleared him of all the remains of his disorder. At Middleburgh the Lady Elizabeth was highly entertained and feasted with all her noble attendants; and Mr. Ferrar as one of her Gentlemen wanted for no marks of due notice

notice and respect. Here he made strict observation of every thing worth seeing, and gained a sufficient acquaintance with the Language to serve him for all ordinary affairs and occasions. From thence the Lady Elizabeth passed on from city to city in all which she was received with great honour, and came to the Hague: from thence to Amsterdam, where she was more magnificently entertained than at any former place. In all these towns Mr. Ferrar visited the several meeting houses of the Brownists, Anabaptists, and other Protestant Dissenters, both to observe their manners and teaching, and to see if all were answerable to his own former reading. At all which times he noted their errors, and greatly confirmed himself in his own opinions. The Jews Synagogue likewise he left not unseen, and their orders. But that which chiefly attracted his notice at Amsterdam was their Guest, or Almshouses, where young children of both sexes are brought up to learn Handicrafts. Here he got particular information of all their proceedings, and very

liberally

liberally rewarded the attendants. He particularly admired the stateliness, and neatness of the Dutch in these public Edifices, and the wonderful good orders and rules by which they are governed. He also visited their Churches, heard their sermons, and attended all their religious rites and ceremonies. He next observed their magazines for all sorts of stores: their innumerable boats and ships, and noted the different way of building from ours in the structure of their War ships. Ours he perceived were stronger made, but theirs formed with more advantage for speedy sailing*. He was also charmed with their cleanliness and the many good orders every where observed to that intent. And he observed that the whole nation kept their houses elegantly neat in all places. When he came to his lodgings he regularly entered all his observations in a book which he kept for that purpose.

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* It should be here recollected that this observation was made in the year 1613.

The Princess Royal now directed her course towards the Palatinate, which was different from the route intended by Mr. Ferrar, who had resolved to pass through the lower parts of Westphalia, and so to Bremen, Staad, Hamburgh, Lunenburgh, Lubeck, Leipzig, and so on to the upper parts of Germany. This his determination he made known to the Lady Elizabeth's chief attendants, who warmly pressed him to accompany them to Heidelberg, the Palsgrave's Court, and chief city of the Palatinate. They told him that her Highness had taken such good notice of him herself, and had heard so much of him from the commendations of others, that if he sought preferment by his travels, he might now, even at the first, make a very fair step towards it. There was no doubt but he might be made her Secretary, that she would think him well worthy of that place, and might recommend him to a better. He humbly thanked them for their good opinion, but assured them they were mistaken in his abilities. He was then introduced to

to her Royal Highness, and kissed her hand, who bad him farewell, and wished him much happiness in his travels.

Mr. Ferrar now set forward on his journey from Amsterdam to Hamburgh, and on his way thither he travelled for some time with a person for his guide, who had but one eye. After some days travel they passed by a wood, where was a Gibbet and some Bodies hanging in chains. Now, said the postman, Sir, look yonder, those villains there hanging, some years since set upon my waggon, wherein were an English youth, and a Hamburgh merchant, then newly come out of Spain. The rogues carried us into that wood in a cold frosty morning and stripped us: and they found good Gold tied up in the shirts of the Gentlemen who had travelled with me, which they took, then drank up our wine, and went away laughing. But sometime after, they, still using the same trade, set upon another waggon, whose passengers made some resistance, when they shot three of them dead in the waggon,

gon, and then fled. They were afterwards taken and there hanged as you see. Your history is true, said Mr. Ferrar, for that English youth was my brother. He has told me this story himself. And when I first saw you, I knew you to be the Postman with whom he travelled, for he described you as having but one eye.

At length he arrived at Hamburgh, where the Factors of the Merchant Adventurers were resident, to whom his father and brother were well known. Here he found fresh bills of Exchange, and letters from his father to Mr. Gore, his old acquaintance, and then deputy Governor of the Company; who received Mr. Ferrar with great friendship and respect, and provided a convenient lodging for him. During his stay here he procured a Scholar of the country to attend him daily at his lodgings, and instruct him in the High Dutch language, in which he made such a proficiency as to be of great service in the course of his travels. Here also in the afternoon he spent some hours
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in examining the curiosities in this city, and in the places adjacent. And here he informed himself by reading the histories in the Dutch language, and by discourse with men of learning in the place, of the original of this and the neighbouring cities: of their several sorts of Government: their Religion: Ecclesiastical Establishment: their Trades: their Commerce: the nature and disposition of the People, and their particular virtues and vices.

A method of passing time in travel which may with great propriety be recommended to the imitation of our modern travellers; who, it is to be feared, do not spend their time either in so laudable a manner or to such beneficial purposes.

From Hamburgh Mr. Ferrar travelled up the country through many cities, at each of which he staid a sufficient time to see, and make observations upon all things worthy of notice, which he regularly entered into his book for that use in short hand.

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In this manner he passed up to the University of Leipzig in Saxony: where, having proper letters of credit, he resolved to abide for some time, both to perfect himself in the High Dutch language, and to gain also what other knowledge and learning he could in that place; and to acquaint himself with the manner of ordering all things in that University. He lodged himself therefore in a principal house of that city, which by a friend's help he obtained permission to do; and the people there were very civil and courteous to him. The English factors shewed him much respect, and were greatly delighted with his pleasant disposition and temper. And they were the more taken with him when they saw that he would not upon any terms drink wine or any strong drink, and had also observed his great temperance in all things, and that he was very humble and meek in his behaviour. Yet still they saw him gallant and rich in apparel. But that fashion of dress his parents thought was the best for him to make use of in his travels, that so, ac-

cording to the mode of the world, he might have the easier admittance into all places, and all respectable company.

At Leipzig he made enquiry after all the ablest Scholars in every art and science in that University, who could be procured for money to teach him; and he paid them all most liberally, and far beyond their expectations. From these circumstances he was thought to be some person of great account. These his several tutors coming to him at set times, and on several days, and his personal resorting with the utmost diligence to all the Exercises performed in the Public Schools, made him to be very much noticed. He gained great reputation for his uncommon abilities, his diligence, and his sweet deportment; his extraordinary quickness in attaining whatsoever he set himself to, the elegant Latin which he spake with the utmost readiness, and his abundant knowledge in several sorts of learning. The universal admiration he obtained was also much heightened by his being so very young.

young. His acquaintance was desired by all the learned men of that University: and he being free in all courtesy to enter into discourse with them, many every day resorted to him. But finding that this took up too much of his time, he privately retired into lodgings in a village in the neighbourhood, and there enjoyed a better opportunity to follow the studies he had resolved upon; his tutors attending him there as they had done before. And here he passed some time in reading over the best authors who had written on the German nation, and in acquainting himself with the Nature of the Government, Laws, and Customs.

The connection of the English factors at Leipzig with their Principals at home, soon transmitted the fame of Nicholas Ferrar to England, who was deemed and represented as a person who had some great intent in his mind, but that it was feared by all that he could not live to be a man of any considerable years.

As on one hand his parents could not but rejoice on hearing these accounts, so on the other they could not help fearing that his extreme application might, though at present he was in perfect health, nevertheless decay his strength, and shorten his life. They therefore exhorted him to curb his too diligent mind, and to abate of his incessant studies, for that they would allow him what time and money he would for his expences.

Having now learned what he could at Leipzig, he departed from thence for Prague, and there he abode a considerable time, till he was able to converse fluently in the High Dutch language. From thence he wandered up and down, to every great place here and there, sometimes backwards, sometimes forward, visiting Augsburg, Strasbourg, Nuremburg, Ulme, Spire, the Emperor's Court, and so from one Prince's Court to another, observing every where their manner of living, and spending their time; what magazines of arms they had;
what

what retinues they kept; what their incomes were: from whence they had their origin; what had been their revolutions; and accurately noting down whatever Germany had in any place worth recording. There being also in several parts of Germany very ingenious handicrafts of various sorts, in all these he acquired a considerable degree of knowledge. So that there was scarce any trade, art, skill or science concerning which he could not discourse to the astonishment even of the Professors themselves in their respective professions. He was master also of the technical terms of their several mysteries, and could speak properly to them in their own dialect. He could express all those things that belong to War, Soldierly, and Arms, all that belong to Ships, and Navigation, and was perfect in all the Mariners peculiar phrases, and in all the particularities of every trade and occupation in common life. And in truth all this without any great care or trouble. For his penetration was so acute, and his memory so vast, and retentive; that every thing he

read, or heard, or saw was all his own, and he could instantly apply it to the occasion that presented itself, as all who knew him found by daily proof.

From Germany, Nicholas Ferrar bent his course for Italy. But the Plague being at that time in many towns of Germany, when he came into the Venetian territories, he was obliged to remain thirty days in one place in a Lazaretto, where he was shut up for public security; but was allowed a chamber to himself. Here he had leisure to recollect all those things, which to that time had passed in his travels; to review his notes and observations, which he had before all along put into short hand; and to digest them into better order for his future use. Here also he had time to meditate what he was to do in Italy; how to order himself and his future life to the best advantage to attain his several ends in travel. Having compleated the thirty days of his confinement, and being again at liberty to prosecute his journey, it may not be amiss to relate

relate a remarkable escape he had upon the road between Prague and Padua. As he rode one day upon some very narrow and dangerous passages of the Alps, his guide being somewhat before him, suddenly from the side of a hill came an afs laden with a great piece of timber. The passage down the hill was extremely narrow, on one side very high and precipitous above him, and on the other also precipitously steep and fearful, so that if any man fell, nothing but immediate death could be expected. The timber did not lie, as at first laid on, lengthwise, but quite across the afs's back, and reached the whole breadth of the pass from one side to the other, and the beast came down the hill apace. The Guide who was advanced a few yards, and had passed the narrow crevice through which the afs came into the common road, seeing Mr. Ferrar's situation, cried out in terror. The man's exclamation caused Mr. Ferrar to look up, who was carefully regarding his horse's steps, and was then upon the extreme brink of the precipice. There was but a

moment between him and certain destruction; when in that moment, just as the beast came upon him she tripped, and by that motion the timber was turned the right way as it was at first laid on. Mr. Ferrar then suddenly stopping his horse upon the very edge of the precipice, there stood still, till, as it pleased God, the beast went quietly on with her burthen, and passed him without any harm but a slight stroke from the timber. After this providential escape, for which he returned his most devout thanks to God, he proceeded on his road to Padua, and so on to Venice without any other disaster.

At Venice Mr. Ferrar found letters of recommendation directed for Sir Dudley Carleton, at that time the English Ambassador there, which he presented to him, who most courteously embraced him, saying, I have a long time expected your coming to Venice; for I have received several letters from many noble personages concerning you. And now, Sir, assure yourself
that

that wherein I may in any kind befriend you, I shall most gladly do it. The Ambassador then caused him to dine with him, and invited him, he said, once for all to do so every day. Mr. Ferrar frequently repaired to him that he might inform himself from so eminent a person of those things that might be of service to him in his future travels.

Having now staid a convenient time at Venice, he returned to Padua, which before, he had only passed through, but now resolved to settle there for some time; in order to perfect himself in all the learning and knowledge to be attained in that University. Here therefore he procured tutors in those sciences in which he intended to be farther instructed. And he won their highest admiration at his ingenious questions and answers, his ready apprehension, his earnest prosecution, and his wonderful proficiency, in so many and such various studies, which at the same time seemed to him no other than so many several recreations.

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His acquaintance was courted by all the learned men in the University, but particularly by the most eminent Physicians; as he bestowed uncommon diligence in the pursuit of Medical Knowledge. And this he did from a double motive, both because he held the Physic Fellowship at Clare Hall, and also on account of the infirm, and precarious state of his own health: in which respect a proper proficiency in the science of Medicine might be peculiarly serviceable to him. And now his friendship with the Paduan Physicians, and their high esteem and great love for him, was of singular benefit to him: for he fell very dangerously ill of a disorder, which in all human probability would have proved fatal, had it not been for their watchful care, and most tender attentions.

It has been suggested by Mr. Archdeacon Oley*, that some of these Paduan Physicians, during Mr. Ferrar's illness endeavoured to seduce him to Popery: as also, that upon his

* Postscript to Mr. Herbert's Country Parson. F. P.

his recovery from this illness, he made a vow of perpetual celibacy: and that he would upon his return to England, as soon as he could conveniently, settle his affairs for that purpose, and endeavour to spend the remainder of his life in a religious retirement. But of these articles I do not find sufficient evidence: yet if the latter be true, it will account for a very remarkable instance of selfdenial, which will occur in the future part of his Life.

While Mr. Ferrar continued thus at Padua, to establish his health, and pursue his studies, he had an opportunity of exercising his great faculty in quieting a troubled mind. For now an English Gentleman came thither, who by the impious custom of duelling had killed another, and had fled from his country to avoid the punishment which the Laws adjudge to Murderers. He was under the deepest melancholy, but concealed the cause of his uneasiness. At length however he acquainted Mr. Ferrar with his misfortune, declaring his great con-

contrition, and sincere repentance; and beseeching him to give him counsel and comfort. Mr. Ferrar by his spiritual consolations, his persuasive arguments, and wonderful power over the human mind, at length made the unhappy sufferer more easy and composed, and confirmed him in the hope of forgiveness. And this event laid the foundation of a sincere and most affectionate friendship between them*.

Mr. Ferrar thus passing his time between Venice and Padua in a course of learning and virtue, and in the most laudable pursuits, he was much sought after, and visited by the English who were then also on their travels; who were delighted with his conversation, notwithstanding that his way of Life and manner of thinking were very different from their own: and they would often

* This unfortunate Gentleman is the person who in the original MS. is frequently referred to as Mr. G.— In the Christian Magazine he is expressly called Mr. Garton; on what authority I know not, but suppose that Dr. Turner had proper reason for inserting the name at length.

often ingenuously confess that he was certainly in the right way, and that they could not but wish they could live as he lived.

These Gentlemen on their return to England spoke of him in the highest terms of applause to their respective families and connections. The Italian merchants also and the English factors resident in different parts of Italy, with whom he had transactions on money concerns, all wrote of him to their correspondents in England, with the warmest commendations, considering him as one who had some great object in view, and would sometime appear to the world possessed of very extraordinary talents. Thus his reputation became general, on the Exchange, in the City, at Court, and all over the Country he was universally known and universally admired.

Having now finished his intended studies, having traversed all Italy, and become intimately acquainted with every place of consequence, being perfect master of the Italian language,

language, both for writing and discourse, having an accurate knowledge of all their Laws, Customs, Manners, Doctrines, and Practices, Civil, and Ecclesiastic, and having made the best use of every thing he had heard, read, or seen, and being determined as to his future plan of conduct, he resolved at last to pay a visit to Imperial Rome. He knew indeed before he went thither, as much of that celebrated City, both antient and modern, as could be learned from history, and from conversation with many persons of great judgment and observation, who had lately been there: but he was desirous to confirm what he had learned by information from others, by his own observation. But having been well informed that since he came into Italy, there had been a particular account of him sent to Rome, of the College of which he was Fellow in Cambridge, of his degrees, and his acquisitions in learning, and particularly that his person had been described in all points to the College of Jesuits there; the manner also in which he had spent his

time

time in Italy, with the general conjecture, that he surely had some farther end in travelling, than other Gentlemen ordinarily have: all this duly considered made him keep his intention very private. For he foresaw that without great caution some mischief might probably befall him. Changing his habit therefore for such a dress as he thought was most proper for his disguise, and safety, he set forward concealing the time when, and keeping the place from whence he came always unknown to all but one trusty friend only, the unfortunate Mr. G.— who, whatever should befall him in that journey, might give an account of him to his family. He travelled on foot, and contrived his business, so that he came to Rome on the Monday before Easter; and during his stay there, he every day changed his lodgings, coming in late and going out early: and as to his repast, such as it was, he took that also sometimes at one place, sometimes at another, and sometimes at none at all. He staid at Rome about ten days, and in that time he so improved his
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opportunities as that he satisfied himself in seeing all that he desired. But the particulars need not be here recited, as they may be found in many other books upon this subject.

From Rome he returned to Venice, not acquainting any one where he had been. At his return he was welcomed home by the English Gentlemen, and all his other acquaintance; as was the custom with them at other times, after his other excursions. In one of these, he went to see the Chapel of Loretto. From thence he went to Malta, where one of the Knights conceiving a particular friendship for him, at their parting desired his acceptance of one of the rich Crosses worn by the brethren of that Order, entreating him to keep it for his sake; and thus exchanging mutual good wishes and benedictions, Mr. Ferrar returned again to Venice.

And now intending at length to leave Italy, he went from Venice to Marseilles,
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purposing after he had passed sufficient time in that city, for visiting what was remarkable there and in the parts adjacent, to take ship there and sail from thence to Spain.

But at Marseilles he fell dangerously ill, being suddenly seized with a violent fever, which daily grew worse and worse. And what added to his misfortune, he knew no one in the place, nor had he any of his former acquaintance with him. In this distress he sent for the most celebrated Physician in the city, and trusted himself entirely to his care. He was very regular in his attendance, and was very careful of him. His host also and hostess where he lodged shewed great tenderness and attention to him.

The first day he was taken ill he wrote to his much-loved friend whom he had left at Venice, the unfortunate Mr. G. to whom he had promised to give information of his arrival at Marseilles. In this letter he acquainted him that he was beginning to

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grow ill, and feared his illness would prove both long and dangerous. Nor was he mistaken, for his illness continued thirty four days, and his Physician was for a long time in absolute despair of his life. This made his attendants desirous to know who he was, which Mr. Ferrar industriously concealed. But one day, as they were looking amongst his things for something he had called for, carefully wrapped up in a little box, was discovered the rich cross which was presented to him by his friend the Knight of Malta, at his departure from that Island. At sight of this, the host and hostess, and the Physician presently concluded that he was a Knight of that Order, who was travelling unknown, and they earnestly entreated him no longer to conceal himself. Mr. Ferrar in vain endeavoured to convince them of the mistake, assuring them that he was only a private Gentleman, travelling for amusement and instruction; for the more he affirmed this, the more they were confirmed in their own opinion. His disorder still continuing excessive, the Physician

fician had given him up for lost. But at the very moment when all hope was gone, a favourable crisis took place; and though he was extremely weak, and reduced to the lowest degree, yet he soon appeared to be in a fair way of recovery.

And now word was brought to him that there was a Gentleman below, just arrived from Venice, who demanded to see him. They who know what true Friendship is, need not to be informed that this person could be no other than his dear and unfortunate friend Mr. G. When he came into Mr. Ferrar's room, and beheld his friend lying on the bed of sickness, so pale, weak, and reduced, he burst into tears. His friend was equally affected, seeing him so unexpectedly. They mutually embraced, and a long, and affectionately expressive silence ensued: for their hearts were so full, that neither could for some time speak to the other. At length Mr. Ferrar told him how welcome he was to him, who but yesterday expected never to see him more.

Mr. G. replied, that on the receipt of his letter he became so deeply afflicted, that he could not rest, day or night, till he should see him. That if he should find him still sick, he might abide with him and take care of him: that if he should die, he might perform the due honours of burial; and that if he should recover, he might rejoice with him on that happy occasion, and in every respect shew him that unfeigned friendship which was justly due to his uncommon virtue.

As a sincere and affectionate friend is perhaps the most effectual medicine that can be administered to the sick, so by the endearing attentions of the benevolent Mr. G. Mr. Ferrar every day advanced apace in his recovery. And when he was thought to be out of danger, Mr. G. said he must at last bid him farewell, and return to Venice. Yes, said Mr. Ferrar, you shall now return to Venice, but I will return with you. For as you have been so very kind as to come so far to take care of me when I
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was ill, and have likewise staid so long with me, it is but justice, and the least return I can make, to see you safe back; nor would he take any refusal; and so they returned together to Venice. From this place Mr. Ferrar immediately gave his parents an account of his cruel sickness, and his recovery at Marseilles in a very affectionate letter bearing date April, 1616.

Having staid at Venice till he was perfectly recovered, and his strength thoroughly recruited, he took his last leave of all his friends and acquaintance there; but particularly of his dear friend Mr. G. who at their parting presented him with an excellent and costly Rapier, saying that perhaps it might be of use to him in his future travels, and wished him to keep it as a testimony of his friendship. And now these dear friends with the warmest affection bad each other Adieu! For in the gulph of Venice a small English vessel was ready to sail for Spain, and Mr. Ferrar resolved to take his passage in her, that so he might travel

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through

through Spain, and see that kingdom, after which he purposed in like manner to see France, and so return home.

The ship, in which Mr. Ferrar left Venice, carried only ten pieces of Ordnance, but was overloaded, though there were no passengers but himself. They had not been long at Sea, before a large ship, a Turkish pirate, gave them chase, and gained speedily upon them. And there being some difference of opinion between the officers, and mariners, whether they ought to yield, or fight it out; they referred their doubts to Mr. Ferrar, who had stood silent among them attending to their debate. They said, this young Gentleman has a life to lose, as well as we; let us hear what he thinks of the matter. For from his first coming on board, upon discourse with him, they had taken a great liking to him, perceiving that he had great skill in maritime affairs.

Mr. Ferrar being thus applied to in form for his opinion, resolutely told them that
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they ought to fight it out, and put their trust in God. That it was better to die valiantly, than be carried into slavery. That God could easily deliver them, and he hoped would not suffer them to fall into the hands of their enemy. He then put them in mind of the many Sea engagements achieved by their countrymen, in which the victory had been gained against superior numbers. Thus encouraged, his words were so prevalent, that with all speed they made ready to defend themselves, committing their cause to the protection of God. And to shew that they were not deficient in English spirit, they, having the advantage of the wind, and a fit opportunity, determined to give their enemy a broadside: when, lo! just as the master was giving the word to the Gunner to fire, the Turkish ship, to their great astonishment, fell off, and steered away from them with all the sail she could make. They soon perceived that this unexpected movement was from the discovery of another ship, which, they supposed, was thought to be a better booty.

The Turk being gone they proceeded on their voyage, and without any farther difficulty arrived at their destined port in Spain.

Soon after his arrival, Mr. Ferrar determined to see Madrid, and the King's Court, and whatever else was worth notice in that part of the Country. But having spent sometime at Madrid, he had also spent almost all the money which he brought with him from Venice. He therefore made enquiry whether there were any bills of exchange, or letters for him, directed to some of the English merchants in that city, but could not hear of any; for he had reached Madrid long before his father thought he could be there. In making this enquiry, he carried the matter so, as if it was for a Gentleman of the name of Ferrar, who, he expected would be there about that time: for he was resolved, if possible, not to discover himself. But it happened that a Mr. Wyche, the son of a merchant, a particular friend of Mr. Ferrar's father, was at that time at Madrid. And he being informed that

that this young Gentleman and stranger made frequent enquiry after one of the name of Ferrar, kept an observant eye upon him. And perceiving something very extraordinary in his genteel deportment, in the wisdom, and the wit of his conversation, and his great knowledge in languages, he concluded him to be some person of high fashion, who was desirous to travel unknown: and thereupon, both himself, and all the English established there, made him an offer of all the civilities in their power.

But as he was now at a stand how to proceed, and what course to take in order to pass through Spain, and then through France home, and being uneasy that no bills of exchange were come for such a one as he enquired after, he suddenly determined to travel no farther at present; but immediately to make the best of his way to England, and in order to this, to travel on foot as well he could to St. Sebastians, and there take ship for his native country.

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In preparation for this expedition, as he still resolved, if possible, to keep himself unknown, he privately sold his cloak, and some jewels which he had by him, to supply his present occasions, and provide for his future wants in his journey. At quitting Madrid he took leave of Mr. Wyche, and the other English merchants, with acknowledgments of their many civilities to him. At which time Mr. Wyche made him an offer of what money he might want, which Mr. Ferrar politely declined.

And now he set forward on foot, with the rich Rapier in his hand presented to him by his dear friend Mr. G. without a cloak, in his doublet and cassock. And with many a weary step, and very few accommodations, he pursued his journey, till he found his feet after a few days travelling on the hot sands of that country to (*surbate.* orig. MS.) become quite wearied, and the skin to come off, so that it was excessively painful to him to proceed. One night his hostess where he lodged, seeing he was a
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young foot traveller, and that he suffered greatly from the torment of his feet, prescribed to him to bathe and steep his feet for a considerable time in a bowl of sack which she brought for that purpose. This gave him immediate ease, and enabled him to proceed comfortably on his journey the next morning, and by future applications prevented all future inconveniences of that sort.

His reason for travelling always with his Rapier in his hand, was not only to be instantly upon his defence in case of any sudden attack, but that he might also pass the more readily in all places as a young Gentleman Soldier, going towards Flanders to serve the King of Spain, under Spinola. And upon the way at all fit times, and places, as he travelled, he seemed to be very inquisitive about Spinola, and what he was doing in Flanders; so that all with whom he had any discourse of this sort, took him for an Italian. But at one place where he passed the night, the Governor being informed

formed of a stranger, who lodged in the town, examined him strictly in many particulars. And Mr. Ferrar made him such wary answers, that he was at a loss what farther to say to him. At last casting his eyes upon the Rapier, he told him that costly Rapier was unbecoming him, for he knew not how he came by it, and therefore he would have it from him. Mr. Ferrar told him he must pardon him in not parting with his weapon, which a Soldier ought to preserve as his life; adding that it was given him by a dear and worthy friend, who enjoined him to keep it, and that he was determined so to do. But this did not satisfy the Governor, who told him that stout as he was he should deliver the Rapier to him before he departed, or he would make him repent his refusal. Mr. Ferrar replied, that he hoped there was more justice to be found every where in Spain, than to take by force an innocent traveller's weapon from him. That he had not in any thing offended Cæsar, or his laws, or the customs of his country since he was in it, and that he
would

would be cautious not to do so during the remainder of his stay. That he came very lately from the King's Court, and that he had friends there who would not suffer him to receive any wrong. From this wise and resolute answer, his determined behaviour, and a stile of language so far above his outward appearance, the standers by concluded him to be some other man than his habit declared, and advised the Governor to meddle no more with him about the Rapier. Who, then addressing himself to Mr. Ferrar, said, Well, I perceive you are a young Italian Gentleman, and enquire after our affairs in Flanders, and after the Marquis Spinola your countryman, to whom I understand you are going. I like well your weapon, which in truth is most handsome and soldier-like; and so he dismissed him to proceed on his journey.

While Mr. Ferrar travelled thus alone over a great part of Spain, he walked once half a day without seeing any body, and was therefore obliged to guess at his way, by
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the best observation he could make to proceed straight forward from the place where he had lodged the night before. And it being now near evening, he perceived that the road he was in led him to a very high hill, which at length he with no small pains and difficulty ascended: and being arrived at the top, he there found a round plat of level ground, of considerable magnitude, encompassed entirely with rocks of a prodigious height, and extremely steep on every side, neither could he discern any pathway, except that by which he had ascended, to lead him out from this rocky enclosure, and thereby encourage him to go forward.

At the sight of this he was much troubled, thinking he had wholly mistaken the hill which he had been directed to ascend, and that he must at last take up his unhoused lodging there that night. Being thus perplexed, and not knowing what to do, he devoutly knelt down, and prayed to God to protect and direct him. Then examining with careful anxiety all parts, to see

see if he could find any way to help him forward in his journey, for it was too late to think of returning, he espied a large black hog, come hastily running out from a narrow crevice or cleft in the rock, and immediately disappear again. But he with his eyes observed, and with his feet made all possible haste to follow and see what was become of the beast. For he conceived hopes that it might be some tame animal, now in the evening returning to its home, and consequently, that possibly there was some dwelling house not far off. Presently he saw the same creature again, now running at the farther end of the level plain down the side of the hill. And, coming to the spot, he perceived a hollow, covered passage, cut into the solid rock, and at some distance within this hollow, a sort of window or air-hole, to give light and air to this subterranean passage. Resolving therefore to follow the animal which he plainly saw to enter this cavity, after sometime, and very cautious treading, he found a turning which grew at every step more and more dark.

Yet

Yet stopping a little while, listening, and still looking and venturing slowly more forward, he discerned, as he thought, a glimmering of more light at a distance. So he went on, and found it to be another window or air-hole, cut like the former through the solid rock to give farther light to the subterranean passage. Thus proceeding onwards, in the same manner, and under the same disagreeable circumstances, he at length plainly perceived that this passage was a way to some subterranean habitation, cut by human labour into the heart of the rock. Thereupon, listening, and proceeding with caution, he fancied that he heard the voices of people talking at no great distance. Resolving therefore to go forward again, he found at length that there was indeed a sort of house in the very substance of the rock, and that it was a harbour, or place of entertainment for passengers who travelled that way.

Coming into the room he saluted the host, and the people who were there; and
sitting

sitting down he called for bread and wine, and then began to discourse with them how hard it was to find the way to them; which, they said, to a stranger must be indeed extremely difficult; but was not so to those who were acquainted with the turns and windings of that subterranean labyrinth. He then called for more wine to wash, and bathe his feet. Which done, after some communication of ordinary matters, such as travellers use with their hosts, he made strict observation of the disposition and manners of the people in the house, and found great reason not very well to like them: but now there was no remedy.

As for the people, they thought him to be a young Italian foldier, going to the Marquis Spinola. For that way his conversation much tended, and shewed that he was well acquainted with all the military transactions in Flanders with the Hollanders. At length he told them that he was very weary and very sleepy, and, if they pleased, would lie down upon a bench, and

take some rest. For that, he pretended, was his custom when he travelled, in order to inure himself to hardships.

Thereupon they shewed him into another room within the cavern; and Mr. Ferrar, not laying his Rapier away, but keeping it close to him, lay down to sleep. But he was scarce laid down, when two lusty, ruffian looking fellows, and a young woman came into the room. Mr. Ferrar heard and saw them, but lay still, as if he was fast asleep. The men then demanded of the people of the house, Who is this here, who lies sleeping upon the bench? they answered, we know not, he is lately come in very weary, and says he is a young Italian soldier, who is going into Flanders, to serve under Spinola. And then they entered into some conversation in a very low voice, which Mr. Ferrar could not hear.

After this they sat down at a table at the farther end of the room, and in a bold manner began to call for various things, and in drink-

drinking their wine they discoursed of different matters, and at length grew very merry. But at last one of the fellows went out, and after a short time came in again, and then after some slight and foolish words began to quarrel with the woman. She gave him as cross words in return, and their other companion taking her part, from words they came to blows, and began to lay hands on the woman. Whereupon she crying out, the host came running in, but instead of being appeased by him, they grew more and more fierce. All this Mr. Ferrar heard and saw, but appeared as if he was in a sound sleep, and kept his hand fast upon his Rapier. They called to him for help, but he regarded not their brawling, still making as if he was dead asleep. Therefore as he continued to lie still, and seemed to take no notice of them, their contention ceased, and they all went out of the room in very friendly terms together.

Mr. Ferrar saw all this was done to provoke him to rise, and take one part or

other, that so they might have quarrelled with him, and carried into execution some bad design against him. But he heard no more of them; and not being able to sleep, he rose at day break, and made haste away, giving God thanks for his escape out of their hands.

After his escape from this subterranean abode, having travelled five hundred miles in Spain, in the heat of summer, alone, and on foot, making his observations on the country, its curiosities, and productions, and on the dispositions, and manners of the people, he at length arrived safely at St. Sebastians. Here he found a ship ready to sail for England, but waiting for a fair wind. In this interval he received great civilities from the Captain of the vessel, and from all the English settled at that place. At length the wind came fair, and after a few days happy passage he landed at Dover, where he returned his sincere thanks to God for bringing him in health and safety to his native country.

We are now no longer to consider Mr. Ferrar as a young Gentleman travelling for amusement and instruction, displaying every where uncommon abilities, illustrious virtue, and indefatigable industry, exciting the highest admiration, and receiving in every country universal applause; but we shall now see him the man of business, applying with unwearied attention the great talents with which God had blessed him, to important negotiations both of a private, and a public nature.

His return was at a very critical time. For one branch of his family was in great distress, and stood in need of his care and wisdom. His brother John Ferrar was likewise entered into a great public employment, by which he became engaged in many affairs which required his assistance. For Sir Edwyn Sandys being chosen Governor of the Virginia Company, Mr. John Ferrar was made King's Counsel for that plantation. He therefore left the management of his concerns in merchandise to his

F 3

friends

friends and partners. And the Virginia courts after this were kept at the house of Mr. Ferrar the father: who from his singular affection for that honourable company, himself being one of the first adventurers of that plantation, and the Somers Islands, allowed them the use of his great hall, and other best rooms of his house to hold their weekly and daily meetings. Many other things both of public and private concernment, now on foot, seemed equally to call for the presence and assistance of Mr. N. Ferrar. For (not to speak of public matters) to all human appearance, without his advice, diligence, and great wisdom in managing the private affairs of his family at this critical juncture, there had been great danger not only of much loss in many particulars, but even of the overthrow and ruin of his elder brother.

Immediately after his arrival at Dover Mr. Ferrar rode post to London; and finding the door of his father's house open, he entered with his rich Rapier at his side, arrayed

rayed only in his cassock, and doublet, and just in the manner as he had travelled from Madrid to St. Sebastians.

The meeting between the worthy parents and their beloved son, whom they had not seen for five years, and whom they had expected never to have seen again, was mutually affectionate and endearing to the highest degree, and may more easily be imagined than described. This his unexpected and much wished for return was in the year 1618; he himself being then twenty six, his father seventy two, and his mother sixty two years of age.

He soon shewed himself upon the Exchange, and in person returned his thanks to those merchants by whose factors he had received his remittances, and many local civilities. He was now much noticed both for the beauty of his person, and for his many eminent qualities: and all his friends soon found that the accounts they had received of his worth, and wisdom from
 F 4 abroad

abroad had not been exaggerated, but that his virtues, and his accomplishments surpassed all report, and all expectation.

In his travels through Holland, Germany, Italy, and Spain, Mr. Ferrar purchased many rare articles of curiosity, many scarce and valuable books, and learned treatises in the languages of those different countries. In collecting which he certainly had a principal eye to those which treated the subjects of a Spiritual Life, Devotion, and Religious retirement. He bought also a very great number of Prints engraved by the best masters of that time; all relative to historical passages of the old and new Testament. Indeed he let nothing of this sort that was valuable escape him. And this great treasure of Rarities, Books, and Prints, upon his return home, he had the satisfaction to find were safely arrived there before him.

Very little indeed of this treasure is now remaining. The Ferrar family being firm in their loyalty to the King, their house at

Gid-

Gidding was plundered in the Civil Wars; and in a wanton devastation, all these things perished, except some of the Prints, not of great value, still in possession of the Editor.

It now comes in the order of time to speak of the great hand which Mr. N. Ferrar had, immediately after his return, in the management of the affairs of the Virginia Company; in which, by his prudent conduct, he got through many and great difficulties with high credit and reputation. From this relation it will appear what great power Gondomar the Spanish Ambassador then had in England; and how by his extraordinary craft and various intrigues he in the end wrought upon a weak prince to suppress one of the most flourishing companies for Commerce in England. And it may possibly give the reader some satisfaction to see some of his subtle proceedings here unravelled; as this affair is hardly touched upon by any other Author*.

Soon after Mr. Ferrar's return, Sir Edwyn Sandys

* This was said about the year 1654.

Sandys who had heard a high character of him from many who had known him in Italy, sought his acquaintance; and being exceedingly taken with his great abilities, took the first opportunity to make him known to the Earl of Southampton, and the other principal members of the Virginia Company. In a very little time he was made one of a particular committee in some business of great importance; whereby the company having sufficient proof of his extraordinary abilities, at the next general court it was proposed and agreed that he should be King's Counsel for the Virginia plantation in the place of his brother John, who was then made the Deputy Governor. And when his name, according to custom, was entered in the Lord Chamberlain's book, Sir Edwyn Sandys took care to acquaint that Lord with his uncommon worth: which indeed daily more and more appeared in every thing he undertook: and as he wanted no ability, so he spared no diligence in ordering all their affairs of consequence. And thus he became deeply engaged

gaged in cares of a public nature. Yet his own inclinations at his return led him rather to think of settling himself again at Cambridge, to which he was the more induced, as he still held the Physic Fellowship in Clare Hall. But this he now saw could not be done. Besides, his parents, now grown old, requested their beloved son to remain with them. Therefore all he could obtain in this respect from them, and from his business, was the liberty now and then to pass a few days with his old acquaintance and friends still remaining in Cambridge.

At this time, 1619, Mr. Henry Briggs*,
the

* Henry Briggs, one of the most admired Mathematicians of his time, born in an obscure hamlet, called Warley Wood in the parish of Halifax, was a Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and was preferred to be the first Geometry Reader in Gresham College in 1596; where continuing about twenty three years, Sir Henry Savile desired him to accept of his Lecture in Oxford. Whereupon going to Oxford in 1619†, and settling in Merton College as a Gentleman Commoner, he

† It should be 1620, for, as Mr. John Ward, Rhetoric Professor at Gresham College, informs me, Mr. Briggs resigned not his Professorship till July 25, 1620. F. P.

the celebrated Mathematician, and Reader of Geometry at Gresham College, and one of the Virginia Company, being about to leave London, and settle at Oxford as Savilian Professor there, recommended it to the Mercer's Company, who had the gift of that Professorship, that they should by all means offer the place to Mr. Ferrar upon his own terms, saying, That he was the ablest Proficient he knew in that Science. The offer was made accordingly, which Mr. Ferrar modestly declined, saying his friend Mr. Briggs was much mistaken in him, and that his affection and goodness to him had misled his judgment. He therefore prayed them to appoint some more worthy person; but that for himself, though he declined the intended honour, he would always be ready to serve the city of London, and the magnificent foundation of Sir Tho. Gresham,

to

he kept that Lecture to the time of his death, Jan. 26, 1630, and was buried in the Choir there, under the honorary monument of Sir Henry Savile. His name stands in the public register of that College as *Vir doctrina clarus, Stupor Mathematicorum, Moribus ac Vita integerrimus*. *Ath. Ox. Vol. I. Col. 550.*

to the utmost of his power.—(Thus the original MS.) ‡.

While Sir Edwyn Sandys continued Governor,

‡ Mr. John Ferrar, author of the original MS. is under a mistake here as to the persons to whom Mr. Briggs recommended Nicholas Ferrar; and Mr. Ward helps me to set this matter right.

“ Sir Tho. Gresham by his will left his mansion house
 “ for the purposes of a College; and with it the Royal
 “ Exchange, by the revenues of which it was to be supported. This donation was committed to the care
 “ and trust of the two Corporations of the city of London, and Mercer’s Company, who were to receive
 “ the profits in moieties, and apply them amongst other
 “ things, to the maintenance of seven Professors. Four
 “ of these, Divinity, Astronomy, Geometry, and Music
 “ were to be chosen by *the City*; and the other three,
 “ Law, Physic, and Rhetoric, by the Mercers. Indeed
 “ the management of this trust in those things wherein
 “ their common interest is concerned hath always been
 “ carried on by a joint Committee of the two Bodies.
 “ But the election of the Professors hath always been
 “ made separately by that part of the Committee of each
 “ Corporation, to whom the choice of the several Professors was by the will respectively appointed. As
 “ Mr. Briggs therefore was himself chosen by *the City*,
 “ he could never go to *the Mercers* to recommend Mr.
 “ Ferrar to their choice: nor could the Master and
 “ Wardens of that Company offer him a Professorship,
 “ to which the City only had a right to elect him.” So
 far Mr. Ward. F. P.

vernor, the reputation of the Virginia Company rose very high under his prudent management. But having now served his year, and being by the general voice intended to have been elected again, by some secret power at Court, all the measures were broken that had been before taken for that purpose.

It was appointed by the charter of the Company that there should be every year in Easter term a new election of a Treasurer or Governor, and a Deputy, and that no man should hold either of those places more than three years. This election was now intended to be made by ballot, a method introduced by Sir Edwyn Sandys, as most likely to secure a free election. A general court day being appointed, and the day and hour of election being come, there were assembled near upon twenty great Peers of the land; near a hundred of the most eminent Knights of the kingdom, of gallant Gentlemen many Colonels and Captains, and renowned Lawyers near a hundred
more,

more, and of the most worthy citizens a very respectable assembly. So that the court consisted of near five hundred persons of several ranks, and quality. Every thing being prepared, the three persons who were to be candidates for the place of Governor, were now to be named by the Company. The three persons being agreed upon, the name of Sir Edwyn Sanyds was first set up, and as this was doing, a Lord of the Bed-chamber and another Courtier stood up, and declared to the court that it was the King's pleasure not to have Sir Edwyn Sandys chosen; and *because he would not infringe their right of election* he would nominate three persons, and permit the company to choose one of them.

At this unexpected message there was for a considerable time a deep silence, every man present standing in amazement at this violent invasion of their Rights, this breach of their Charter and stretch of Tyrannic power. At length some at the lower end of the Hall stood up, and prayed that the
Cour-

Courtiers having delivered their message, and consequently having nothing more to say, might withdraw, till the company had resolved what to do.

The Earl of Southampton (Henry Wriothesley) then stood up and said, “ For my
 “ part, Gentlemen, I like not this motion,
 “ let the *Noble Gentlemen* if they please keep
 “ their places, and sit and hear the opinions
 “ of the company, that so they may be
 “ both ear and eye witnesses of our actions,
 “ and words, and may themselves by these
 “ means truly inform his Majesty of our
 “ fair and justifiable way of proceeding in
 “ this weighty business: a business of the
 “ highest concernment both in respect of
 “ his Majesty, and in respect of the com-
 “ pany. In respect of his Majesty, *whom*
 “ *we know to be so just a King*, that he may
 “ understand what privileges he hath grant-
 “ ed us by his Letters Patent, under the
 “ Great Seal of England: on the credit and
 “ authority of which Letters, we have ad-
 “ vanced and adventured one hundred thou-
 “ sand

“ sand pounds of our own estates: and in
 “ respect of the company, who have gained
 “ so hopefull a country, which they have
 “ bought, and compounded for with the
 “ Natives, and which when once well peo-
 “ pled by English Colonies, will find full
 “ employment for all needy people in this
 “ land, who now begin to swarm in this *blessed*
 “ *time of peace* under his Majesty’s *happy*
 “ *reign*; will provide estates likewise for all
 “ the younger brothers, Gentlemen of this
 “ Kingdom; and also a ready and lasting
 “ supply to this Nation of those commodi-
 “ ties which in our present condition we are
 “ fain to fetch from foreign nations, from
 “ doubtfull friends, yea from heathen
 “ princes. These circumstances, I say,
 “ fairly considered, make this a business of
 “ so great concernment, that it never can
 “ be too solemnly, too thoroughly, or too
 “ *publickly* examined.”

Lord Southampton having thus spoken
 sat down, and after some silence Sir Lau-
 rence Hyde, the learned Lawyer, next rose

up and said, " May it please this honourable
 " Society, I for my part not only agree to
 " that motion now made by the noble Earl
 " who spoke last, but also desire the com-
 " pany not only to permit, but even to in-
 " treat *these worthy messengers* of the King to
 " stay in our Court, and I will be thus far-
 " ther bold to break the ice, and to give
 " you my opinion that the first step we
 " ought to take in this serious business now
 " in hand should be to cause the Patent, as
 " the foundation of all our proceedings, to
 " be here immediately produced, and red,
 " before this honourable assembly, and *these*
 " *worthy Gentlemen* the King's messengers.
 " And then both we and they shall all soon
 " be satisfied in the extent of our privi-
 " ledges, and in the strength of his Majesty's
 " Grant, which he hath made to us under
 " the Great Seal of England, and under the
 " hand and honour of a King."

Thereupon, all instantly cried out, The
 Patent! The Patent! God save the King.
 The Patent was then openly and distinctly
 read by the Secretary.

After

After which Sir Laurence Hyde stood up again and said, "Gentlemen, I pray you all
 "to observe well the words of the Patent
 "in the point of electing a Governor. You
 "see it is thereby left to your own free
 "choice. This I take it is so very plain
 "and evident, that we shall not need so say
 "any thing more to it. And no doubt
 "these Gentlemen, when we shall have
 "done our duty, and they depart, will give
 "his Majesty a just information of the case,
 "and undeceive him in the unjust misre-
 "presentations which have been given him
 "in this point."

The rest of the many Lawyers who were there concurred in opinion with Sir Laurence Hyde, and the Court voted that they should now immediately proceed to election. When a friend of Sir Edwyn Sandys, Sir Rob. Phillips, who sat behind him, and to whom Sir Edwyn had whispered, stood up and craved of them before they proceeded, to hear him a word, or two, and then said,

“ I shall consent that we go to an elec-
 “ tion out of hand, because it is the business
 “ of the day, and if we do it not now, we
 “ may thereby in my opinion forfeit our
 “ Patent; and also that we may by so doing,
 “ shew our duty to the King, in order to
 “ satisfy him in all that we may: which, as
 “ I am instructed by this worthy Gentle-
 “ man your late Governor, may be done, if
 “ you will out of your own judgments, at
 “ present forbear to set up his name (whom
 “ I perceive you all think and know most
 “ worthy to be continued in that office)
 “ and put up *two* or *three* names of the per-
 “ sons recommended by his Majesty. And
 “ let these managers themselves, if they
 “ think fit, nominate which *two* they please.
 “ And in order in some degree to preserve
 “ your own privileges, do you then name
 “ a *third* person. And then let all these *three*
 “ names be set upon the balloting box, and
 “ so go to the election in God’s name, and
 “ let his will be done.”

Thereupon with a general acclamation,
 not

not one voice against it, the whole court cried out Southampton! Southampton! At which my Lord of Southampton rose up to speak. But they again cried out, The time is almost past, we most humbly beseech your Lordship not to interrupt our proceedings.

The King's messengers then said, they must confess that the company proceeded wisely; and that if they had the nomination of *two* out of the *three*, as Sir Rob. Phillips proposed, they doubted not but his Majesty would be satisfied. For as Sir Edwyn Sandys had wisely waved his interest, if the King desired no more than *that he might not be chosen*, the course proposed to be taken was likely to please him. And so they proceeded to the ballot; when of the *two* persons nominated by the King's messengers, one of them had only *one* ball, and the other but *two*. The Earl of Southampton had all the rest. Lord Southampton then took the chair, and they proceeded to the choice of a Deputy, when Mr. John Ferrar was

G 3

chosen

chosen by the same majority; of that large company, consisting of near five hundred persons, only three dissenting. And thus began the year 1620.

The Earl of Southampton, now elected Governor of the Virginia Company, had a particular friendship with Sir Edwyn Sandys, and took this office conditionally that his friend should continue his advice and assistance in the business of the company. So that there were now three very able men engaged, Lord Southampton *, Sir Edwyn Sandys,

* This Earl who had been converted from Popery by Sir Edwyn Sandys, was in the 40 Eliz. in the voyage with the Earl of Essex to Cadiz. And the next year accompanying him to Ireland, was made Gen. of Horse in the army there. But from that command he was shortly after by the Queen's special appointment removed. Whereupon he returned with the E. of Essex into England, and went speedily into the Netherlands. Whence being soon recalled, he confederated with Essex in his desperate projects, appearing with him in the insurrection he then made in London. For which being first imprisoned in Lambeth house, and afterwards in the Tower, he was brought to his trial by his Peers; Tho. Lord Buckhurst, being constituted Lord High Steward for that occasion. Where excusing himself as to any evil

Sandys†, and Mr. Nicholas Ferrar. Lord
South-

evil design, he implored the Queen's mercy, which he afterwards obtained. For though he was found guilty of that traitorous attempt, laid to the charge of Essex and his accomplices, no execution was done upon him. So that escaping that perillous rock, he was in the 1st of James I. restored by act of Parliament, and enlarged of his imprisonment: and upon the 2d of July next installed a Knight of the Garter. He departed this life in the Netherlands, Nov. 10, 1624, and was buried at Titchfield†. Dugdale Baron. of Eng. Vol. II. p. 384.

This account of Dugdale agrees with the account in Camden's Annals of Eliz. as will appear from the following short extract from that most respectable Author.

Essexius in Hiberniam proficiscens, inter navigandum adversa tempestate in Hiberniam appulit, et statim, contra ac in mandatis habuit Henricum Comitem Southamp. Equitibus præfecit. Tom. II. p. 177.

Regina acriter objurgarat, quod contra ac imperarat Southamptonium Equitum præfectura non abdicasset, p. 181.

Tota illa nocte emissi ex Essexianis ædibus discursabant, qui amicis significarunt Cobhamum et Raleighum Essexii vitæ insidiari. Hinc ad eum benè mane die dominico qui 8 Februarii erat, Comites Rutlandiæ, et Southamptoniæ

† The Earl of Southampton and his son Lord Wriothesley, at their winter quarters at Rosendale, were both seized with burning fevers. The son died; and the father overcoming the fever, departed from Rosendale with intention to bring his son's body to England, but died at Bergen op Zoom; and both the bodies were brought in the same bark to Southampton and buried at Titchfield. Wilson. See Rapin. Jam. 1, 1624, in note.

Southampton celebrated for wisdom, elo-
quence,

amptoniæ et melioris notæ nobiles plus minus 300 con-
fluunt. p. 222.

Essexius et Southamptonius judicio sistuntur: læsæ
Majestatis deinde postulantur, quod Reginam folio et vita
dēturbare machinati sint. p. 229.

Southamptonius miti oratione, et imprimis modesta,
culpam ex amore in Essexium contractam, submisit re-
spondet. Se toto die gladium non strinxisse: Edictum
quo Rebelles denuntiati erant non audivisse: effulationes
ex ædibus Essexianis, quoad poterat, prohibuisse. id.

Essexius Pares obtestatur ut Reginam pro Southamp-
tonio qui benè mereri posset, intercederent. id.

Southamptonius Reginæ misericordiam demississime
efflagitat, rursus protestatus se nefariam in Reginam co-
gitationem nunquam concepisse, adeo suavi oratione, et
ingenua modestia, ut omnium astantium animos ad mise-
ricordiam commoveret. id.

Seneschallus gravi habita oratione, Sententiam funest-
am pronuntiavit. Hæc, quibus interfui fide incorrupta
memoravi. id.

The Earl of Essex was beheaded.

The Earl of Southampton was kept in prison. Ra-
pin. 1601.

In 1603, nothing could more plainly shew that the
King (Ja. I.) considered the Earl of Essex as his Martyr,
as he himself called him, than his gracious reception of
the Earl of Southampton when that Lord came to wait
on him.

† Sir Edwyn Sandys wrote a book entitled *Europæ
Speculum, or a Survey of the present state of Religion in
the Western parts of the World.* Wherein the Roman
Religion,

quence, and sweet deportment; Sir Edwyn Sandys for great knowledge, and integrity, and Nicholas Ferrar for wonderful abilities, unwearied diligence, and the strictest virtue.

The latter was now fully employed in drawing up instructions concerning all the various business respecting the Plantation, in writing all Letters of advice to the Colony in Virginia, and in being constantly one in every committee. Which instructions and letters being always read in the open courts, gained him universal approbation. The Civilians, the common Lawyers, the Divines, (of which last Dean Williams afterwards Bp. of Lincoln was one) who attended these courts, when acquainted with Mr. Ferrar's performances, all spoke of him in highest terms of commendation. The
mer-

Religion, and the pregnant policies of the Church of Rome to support the same are notably discovered. Printed (without his consent) 1605. With his consent, and a better edition, 1629. A most curious treatise; by the perusal whereof the reader may easily discern how excellently well qualified Sir E. Sandys was to convert the Earl of Southampton. F. P.

merchants and tradesmen, when he had occasion to speak of their matters, even the sea officers, and mariners, when he gave directions about the victualling and ordering the ships or other naval affairs, all were in the highest admiration of his abilities and accurate knowledge of every thing relating to their respective professions. And now under the management and direction of Lord Southampton, Sir Edwyn Sandys, and Mr. Nicholas Ferrar, the affairs of the Virginia Plantation were soon in the most flourishing situation.

At this time there was in London a Mr. Copeland, a Minister in the Somers Islands, who contracted a great intimacy with Mr. Ferrar. He was a worthy man, and very zealous for the conversion of the Infidel natives of America. He had many conferences with Mr. Ferrar upon this subject, and the best way and means to effect it; and he seriously informed Sir E. Sandys and others of the company, that he verily believed Mr. Ferrar was determined some
time

time to leave the old World, and settle in Virginia; and there employ the extraordinary talents with which God had blessed him, and spend his life in the conversion of the Natives, or other Infidels in that country: adding, "If he should do so, I will never forsake him, but wait upon him in that glorious work." This I think is a strong presumptive proof, that notwithstanding Mr. Ferrar's great abilities in different occupations and his wonderful proficiency in various acquisitions of science, and other accomplishments, yet that the peculiar bent, and determination of his mind was uniformly given to the promotion of the Christian Religion.

At this time (April, 1620) died Mr. Ferrar the father, who made his son Nicholas his sole executor; which was a great addition to the business already lying upon him: but he had abilities equal to any thing, and to every thing, with firmness of mind and integrity equal to his ability. Mr. Ferrar sen. by his will gave 300*£*. towards erecting

ing a School or College in Virginia for the better education of such Infidel children as should be there converted to the Christian Religion. He was buried in the Church of St. Bennet Sherhog*, April 12, and his old friend Dr. Francis White, whom he brought from the obscurity of the country into a more public life, preached his funeral Sermon to a crouded audience; in which he described him as a second Nathaniel, an Israelite indeed in whom was no guile.

The Virginia plantation, now under the Government of the Earl of Southampton, became every day of higher reputation, and the affairs of the company in consequence every

* From Mr. Ferrar's funeral certificate: printed in Mr. Hearne's Appendix to Caii Vindic. Vol. II. 683. F.P.

The following is a copy of the Receipt from the Herald's office for the fee due on his funeral.

Recd. of Mr. N. Ferrar the sum of 3*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. of lawful English money, as a fee due to the office of Arms for the funeral of Mr. N. Ferrar his father, and for taking the certificate of the time of his Death, Match, and Issue, to be entered into a register book in the office of Arms. I say Recd. the 24th of August, 1620.

Sam. Lennard,
Blue-Mantle,

every day of more weighty importance. So that Mr. Ferrar, both as counsel to the company, and assistant also to his brother as deputy Governor, was pressed by a double weight of care: as the company would not permit the deputy to resign till he had executed his office three years, which he did 1619, under Sir Edwyn Sandys, and 1620, 1621, under the Earl of Southampton.

But now the encreasing fame of this company, and the wise management of it was carried into Spain, and caused no small alarm. The Politicians there saw, or pretended to see danger in the course of not many years. Virginia was too near them, both by Sea and Land: and they did not know but the people of that plantation, when once a little settled, might perhaps be looking over the hills, and at length spy out their rich mines. Gondomar therefore had it in commission to have a special eye upon the company, and the managers of their affairs. And he was indeed a vigilant observer of his instructions. He not only
gained

gained an absolute influence over the King, but many great men about him, whom he had bought with Spanish money: these were very powerful, and well known at court by the name of the Spanish Party.

Gondomar and the King had now agreed upon the destruction of the Virginia Company. Notice of their dishonourable designs was given to Lord Southampton and Sir Edwyn Sandys, by the Marquis of Hamilton and the Earl of Pembroke; who privately warned them to look well to themselves, and their proceedings, for that many stratagems were now in train, and would be pushed to the utmost to procure the destruction of the plantation, and to ruin all persons who should be employed in supporting the affairs of the company.

This opportune advice produced a double care and watchfulness in the managers, if possible, to prevent the intended mischief. But it would be endless here to relate the many discouragements, the dark intrigues,
and

and shameful practices which they now daily met and encountered. These things require another time and place*. All that

* Mr. John Ferrar speaks here as if he intended a particular treatise upon the Virginia affairs. But this is all he gives in the MS. concerning this particular point, for the years 1619, 20, 21. And this little is not very clearly expressed. Yet it may serve to throw some light upon a passage in Mr. Anthony Wood, which is as follows, and in which some allowance must be made for Mr. Wood's political principles. "In the Parliament, 1621, Sir Edwyn Sandys being found factious, and too daring, he was (with Selden) committed to the custody of the Sheriff of London, June 16, 1621, and not delivered thence till the 18th, which matter being ill resented by the house of Commons, they on Nov. 8, following, did dispute the matter tumultuously; taking it for a great breach of their privileges, that any of them should be thus imprisoned. At length Secretary Calvert protesting before them that neither he nor Selden were imprisoned for *Parliamentary matters*, a stop was thereupon put to the dispute. *Athenæ Oxon.* Vol. I. Col. 541.

The matter for which they were imprisoned was the Virginia business. The King had been so violent at setting out as to forbid Sir Edwyn Sandys being elected Governor. The latter had taken Selden's opinion upon the words of the charter, and his direction how to oppose the underminers of it to the best advantage. This was sufficient reason with the King for sending them both to prison. And thus this passage, which as it stands in Mr. Wood, and in Camden's *Annals* of Ja. I. seems to throw a reflection on Sir Edwyn Sandys, really turns out very much to his honour.

that need here be said is that the Virginia business was now no pastime, nor were the managers in any respect permitted to be idle.

In the Easter term, 1622, Mr. John Ferrar having been continued deputy Governor three years, Nicholas Ferrar was elected to succeed him. For Lord Southampton plainly told the deputation from the company, who waited on him to desire he would consent to be re-elected, that if they did not choose Mr. Nicholas Ferrar to be the deputy Governor, he could not any longer take the office of Governor upon him; saying that he was the only person who was able to go through with the business; and to encounter all those great and potent oppositions, which he knew either were, or very soon would be raised against the company and the plantation: and that without Mr. Ferrar's assistance all would fall to ruin. You all, he continued, see, and know his abilities and his integrity as well as I. On condition of his being deputy, I will be your Governor; but he must be the person who must

must act both mine and his own part also. Without him I dare not accept the office: with him, I will do all I can to serve you.

These things being thus settled, the meetings at Mrs. Ferrar's house began again to be crowded, as usual; and Gondomar exerted double diligence, procuring, by Spanish gold, spies, who informed him of every thing that was done at these meetings; and, what added greatly to his influence, the Spanish party at court, carried every thing with a high hand.

Many shameful stratagems were now attempted against the company, to throw their affairs into confusion, and to dishearten them on all sides. Particularly their privilege in point of customs (which was to pay only 5 per cent.) was now questioned, and 15 per cent. demanded. One Jacobs also, who had procured a licence for importing Spanish Tobacco, was now employed and supported by the great men in the pay of Gondomar to infringe the company's patent: which

increased Mr. Ferrar's trouble to a great degree, and made it necessary for him to resort frequently to the Council table, and to Sir Tho. Coventry the King's Attorney General.

The hardship and the injustice put upon the company in this last article only was very great, as the profit arising from Virginia Tobacco, was as yet the only return which the planters had to answer all their trouble, expence and hazard. For little progress had been made in the several plans of improvement, as the consequences of the first massacre * by the savages, were not yet fully recovered.

By Mr. Ferrar's care and industry things seemed,

* That massacre was perpetrated on Friday, March 22, 1621, at which time the savages killed 347 persons. There were then murdered at Mr. William Ferrar's house these ten persons, Mr. John England, and John his servant; John Bell, Henry Paterson, and Alice his wife, and William her son; Thomas their servant, James Woodshaw, and Mary and Elizabeth, maidservants.

Declaration of the State of Virginia. London, 1622, 4^o. p. 14, 37.

seemed, notwithstanding this violence and injustice, to be getting again in a fair way towards a lasting settlement. But alas! the Spanish match for the Prince was now set on foot, and Gondomar took advantage of that opportunity to exert his absolute power over the King; who meanly suffered himself, in violation of his patent, and the honour of a King, to be made this crafty minister's instrument to effect the ruin of the company.

The Marquis of Hamilton and the Earl of Pembroke solemnly affirmed to the Earl of Southampton, that they heard Gondomar say to the King, " That it was time for him
 " to look to the Virginia courts which were
 " kept at the Ferrar's house, where too many
 " of his Nobility and Gentry resorted to ac-
 " company the popular Lord Southampton,
 " and the dangerous Sandys. That though
 " they might have a fair pretence for their
 " meetings, yet he would find in the end
 " that court would prove a seminary for a
 " seditious Parliament. That they were

“ deep politicians, and had farther designs
 “ than a Tobacco plantation. That their
 “ proceedings in the issue might cause, if
 “ not timely prevented, occasions of diffe-
 “ rence between his Majesty, and his Master
 “ the King of Spain. For he had heard
 “ rumours, that once being become nume-
 “ rous, they intended to step beyond their
 “ limits; and for aught he knew, they might
 “ visit his master’s mines. Adding, that he
 “ had occasion of late to have a conference
 “ with the managers concerning a ship laden
 “ with Silver, which was cast away; and
 “ that he found them subtle men, men of
 “ high courage, men who no way regarded
 “ either his master or their own.” These
 Lords therefore advised Lord Southampton
 to be upon his guard; and bad him and his
 deputy prepare for the rencounter; for that
 it would certainly come to the push of Pike;
 and that they feared, as matters now stood,
 the company would be dissolved, and under
 some pretence or other their patent taken
 away. The creatures of Gondomar also in-
 sinuated to the King, that the matter was
 too

too high and great for private men to manage: that it was therefore proper for the King to take it into his own hands, and to govern and order it both at home and abroad according to his own will and pleasure.

After a short time a commission was granted by the King to some known enemies to the company to disturb and teize them by vexatious examinations: And one Cap. Butler, whom the company had removed from his office for scandalous mismanagement and injustice, was suborned, and made an instrument to spread disadvantageous reports of the country itself, as being unfit to be planted, as being extremely unhealthy and entirely unproductive.

Before these commissioners Mr. Ferrar often appeared in the defence of the company, and exerted himself with such firmness and force of argument, not only face to face to the accusers, but by such unanswerable deductions in writing, that the commissioners were not able to proceed: all their alle-

gations being demonstrated by him to be false and frivolous. The matter therefore was brought from them before the Council table. And then Mr. Ferrar, and the company were forced to attend there twice or thrice a week for half a year together, in order to weary them out by a vexatious persecution. But notwithstanding all these infamous machinations, nothing could be taken hold of to wrest the patent from the company. They were often indeed required to lay it down; but this they refused to do.

At this time, though there were many able men of the company ready to defend their just cause, yet the Lords of the council insisted that the deputy, being, as they said, the representative of the company, should be the only person to answer their objections. And this they did on seeing him so young a man, thinking from that circumstance to gain some advantage over him. But he answered them all with that singular wisdom and modesty, that accurate knowledge of affairs, that discretion, firmness and elo-

eloquence, that the mercenaries of Gondomar were confounded; and then by a new and unexpected artifice, and in pretended admiration of his great abilities, said it was pity but that he should be taken off from his present business, and employed in public affairs of more weighty importance.

Accordingly overtures were made, and a negociation entered upon with Lord Southampton and Sir Edwyn Sandys, to prevail with them to persuade Mr. Ferrar to accept the place of Clerk of the Council, or (Leiger) Envoy to the Duke of Savoy, which of the two employments he himself liked best. He modestly declined the offer, saying his abilities were not sufficient for a post of such weighty importance. His friends continued to press him, and he to refuse. At length he told them that he could not accept of such preferment, that his thoughts lay quite another way. But seeing their importunity continue, he in confidence to his two great friends, and on their promise of secrecy, declared to them his solemn determination,

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when he should have discharged the duties of his present situation, to enter upon a state of Religious retirement.

The council finding that the company were still resolved not to part with their patent, or with the liberty which they thereby had to govern their own affairs, now took a more severe, and not less unjust course. They confined Lord Southampton to his house, that he might not come to the Virginia courts, of which he was the legal Governor. But this only made the company more resolute in their own just defence. They then ordered Sir Edwyn Sandys into a similar confinement. But this step in no degree abated the resolution of the company. Then the Lords, under the influence of Gondomar, strongly pressed the company to give up their patent. The Marquis of Hamilton and the Earl of Pembroke informed Lord Southampton and Sir Edwyn Sandys of these proceedings, saying, That Nicholas Ferrar, though now left as it were alone, was too hard for all his opposers,

posers. But continued they, your enemies will prevail at last; for let the company do what they can, in open defiance of Honour, and Justice, it is *absolutely determined* at all events to take away your patent.

But Gondomar and his instruments, finding that their violent measures had not the desired effect upon the company, now vehemently urged the King to take the plantation into his own hands, as a thing befitting a King: and particularly as being a measure that would be most acceptable to the King of Spain.

Still however the same unjust persecution of the company was carried on; and Mr. Ferrar still remained unanswerable in his defence. When one day the Lord Treasurer Cranfield in great heat of passion told him, that he could prevail with the company if he would, and they might then obtain all that they desired.

Nicholas Ferrar then being called to the
upper

upper end of the Council table, addressed himself with all humility to the Lords, and to Lord Cranfield in particular, “ beseech-
 “ ing them in the most earnest manner not
 “ to entertain so vain an imagination. That
 “ there were many members of the com-
 “ pany much better qualified than he was
 “ to speak upon their affairs. Nevertheless,
 “ that he humbly entreated their Lordships
 “ to consider seriously, whether, if such a
 “ number of the Virginia company as made
 “ a court, or whether, if all those members
 “ who lived in and near London should
 “ meet and assemble together, whether even
 “ all these could either in law or equity give
 “ up the patent, without the previous con-
 “ sent of all the rest of the members, to the
 “ number of some thousands now dispersed
 “ all over England. And these too not per-
 “ sons of inferior rank, but persons of the first
 “ condition, of the Nobility, and Gentry, of
 “ the Bishops, and Clergy, of the chief Citi-
 “ zens, and of the principal Companies, and
 “ Corporations throughout the whole king-
 “ dom. Besides these, all the Planters also
 “ in

“ in Virginia, who were all included in the
 “ grant, and who all upon the encourage-
 “ ment, and promised protection of the
 “ King, under the Great Seal of England,
 “ and the pledge of his royal word and ho-
 “ nour, adventured their estates, and many
 “ of them even their lives in this the great-
 “ est and most honourable undertaking in
 “ which England had ever been engaged.
 “ He represented also the great good which
 “ in numberless sources of wealth and
 “ strength, would by means of this corpo-
 “ ration, and through the encouragement
 “ of their care, by the blessing of God,
 “ shortly accrue to this nation. And he
 “ again and again most earnestly besought
 “ their Lordships to take all these things
 “ into their most serious consideration; and
 “ no longer to urge them, not the twentieth
 “ part of the persons interested, to do an
 “ action which was in itself both unjust and
 “ unreasonable, and indeed impossible for
 “ them to do. For how could they pretend
 “ to give away and yield up the rights, and
 “ interests of other men, without the con-
 “ sent

“ sent of the parties interested first obtain-
 “ ed. And in the most solemn manner he
 “ adjured their Lordships not to make them
 “ the instruments of doing so vile a thing,
 “ to which, if they consented, they should
 “ render themselves worthy of the severest
 “ punishment. Besides, he said, it is wor-
 “ thy your Lordships farther consideration,
 “ how far such a precedent may possibly
 “ operate, and how dangerous such an ex-
 “ ample may be, if only a twentieth part
 “ of any company should presume, or should
 “ be permitted to deliver up the liberties and
 “ priviledges, the rights, and the property of
 “ the other nineteen parts, and that with-
 “ out so much as once calling them together
 “ to give their consent. This, he continued,
 “ was what the company now assembled,
 “ must refuse as a thing unjust, and not
 “ feasible for them to do.”

The Lord Treasurer upon his discoursing
 thus, being inflamed with violent passion,
 often interrupted him, and so did some
 others. But the Marquis of Hamilton, the
 Earl

Earl of Pembroke, and some other Lords of the council said, Nay, my good Lords, forbear. Let him make an end. We have called him hither to know what he can say on the company's behalf. Let us therefore not interrupt him: it is but reasonable to hear him out. Mr. Deputy go on.

Mr. Ferrar, with the most respectful humility then said, "Most honourable Lords,
 " I was just on the point of concluding. I
 " will add only this, That as for my own
 " private interest, and the interest of many
 " here present, and of many others who are
 " absent, my Lords, we all most humbly cast
 " ourselves, and our estates at his Majesty's
 " royall feet: let him do with us and with
 " them, if so he be determined, what seem-
 " eth best unto his good will and pleasure.
 " For as to what is really our own, and in
 " us to give, we submit it all to his Maje-
 " sty's disposal; and in all other things we
 " shall endeavour to serve and please him in
 " all that with a conscience unhurt we may:
 " desiring only this, that with respect to the
 " rights

“ rights and property of others, we may be
 “ permitted to execute the trust reposed in
 “ us, with fidelity and honour, and to dis-
 “ charge religiously those duties, which, as
 “ they are of the first importance, ought to
 “ have the first influence upon the mind of
 “ man.”

Then the Marquis of Hamilton stood up, and with a loud voice said, Mr. Deputy, in my opinion, my Lords, hath spoken well, excellently well both for himself, and for the company. And what, my Lords, can we now desire more of him? The Earl of Pembroke seconded Lord Hamilton, and said, Surely, my Lords, I hope the King (if he shall hear all) will be satisfied with what we have done, but particularly with what we have now heard. Let us fairly report it to him, and then let his Majesty do what he thinks most proper. We have sat a long time upon this business, and at length we may conjecture the result.

Gondomar with his profligate instru-
 ments,

ments, the King, and the Spanish party at court, perceiving that Mr. Ferrar, (having demonstrated all their allegations to be false and groundless) had rendered all their violence ineffectual, now had recourse to a different mode of proceeding. They suborned, and procured persons to bring forward a crimination against him, who came and exhibited in form a complaint to the Council board. The substance of the accusation was this, That the deputy, during the times of his appearing before the council, had drawn up and sent to the Governor and plantation of Virginia certain dangerous instructions, and inflammatory letters of advice, directing them how they should conduct themselves in standing to their patent, and exhorting them that they should never give their consent to let it be delivered up. And therefore that if these letters and instructions were not countermanded by their Lordships, some very ill consequence might ensue, and the King might thereby receive much dishonour.

As soon as this pretended complaint was lodged in form, instantly, though it was then very late at night, some pursuivants, who were kept in readiness for that purpose, were dispatched in all haste to Mrs. Ferrar's house to speak with the deputy, and to command him without any delay immediately to deliver up to them, all those books of the Virginia company wherein were registered the copies of all such letters and instructions as had been sent to the plantation from the council or company here.

Mr. Ferrar told them that the Secretary of the Virginia company, and not he, had the keeping of those books. They then required him to give them a note to the Secretary to deliver them. But he excused himself, saying, " Surely your commission
 " will be a better authority for him to do
 " so, than any note which I can send him.
 " For my own part, if I had the company's
 " evidences in my possession, entrusted to
 " my custody, I certainly would *not* deliver
 " them up, unless I had their leave, and ex-
 " press

“ prefs order fo to do.” When he faid this they left him, and went to the Secretary, and forced him to deliver up the books to them.

The next day the deputy, and many Lords and Gentlemen concerned in the company, were fummoned to attend at the Council table. For the accufers of the company had given it out publicly, that now very ftrange things indeed would be difcovered in thefe books and inftructions, and brought forth to public view. On this account there was a very numerous attendance, and all the Lords of the council alfo were particularly fummoned to attend.

When the council was met, the deputy (as heretofore) was commanded to come to the upper end of the table. Then the accufers of the company defired of the Lords that one of the clerks of the council might read fuch and fuch letters and inftructions written in fuch and fuch months. Some of which being read, the Lords of the council

looked upon one another with evident marks of astonishment; observing that there was nothing of that dangerous consequence in those papers, which the accusers had informed them they would discover; but on the contrary much matter of high commendation. Point out, said one Lord, where is the fault or error in these letters and instructions; for my own part I must say that I cannot see any.

The enemies of the company then prayed their Lordships to hear them all read out; and then they said it would soon appear where the faults lay. Yea, yea, said the Lord Treasurer with vehemence, read on, read on: we shall anon find them. So they still persisted to read. And in a word, so much patience had the Lords, or rather so much pleasure, that many of them said they thought their time had been well spent. All these letters and instructions being in the end thus read out, and nothing at all appearing which was any ways disadvantageous to the company, but on the contrary
 very

very much to their credit and honour: the Marquis of Hamilton stood up, and said, That there was one letter which he prayed might be read over again, on which he should desire to make a few observations. Which being accordingly done, Well! said he, my Lords, we have spent many hours here, in hearing all these letters and instructions, and yet I could not help requesting to hear this one letter over again; because I think that all your Lordships must agree with me that it is absolutely a master piece. And indeed they are all in high degree excellent. Truly, my Lords, we have this day lost no time at all. For I do assure you that if our attendance here, were for many days, I for my part would willingly sit them out to hear so pious, so wise, and indeed politic instructions as these are. They are papers as admirably well penned as any I ever heard. And, I believe, if the truth were known, your Lordships are all of the same opinion.

The Earl of Pembroke said, There is not one thing in them all, which, as far as I can

see, deserves in the least degree to be excepted against. On the contrary they all deserve the highest commendation: containing advices far more excellent than I could have expected to have met with in the letters of a trading company. For they abound with soundness of good matter, and profitable instruction with respect both to Religion and Policy; and they possess uncommon elegance of language. Many other Lords concurred in these commendations, and at length one, addressing himself to Mr. Ferrar, said, Mr. Deputy, I pray you tell us who penned these letters and instructions, we have some reason to think it was yourself.

Mr. Ferrar, whose modesty and humility were not inferior to his other rare accomplishments, replied, My Lord, these are the letters and instructions of the company, and the council of the company. For in all weighty affairs they order several committees to make each a rough draught of what they judge proper to be done in these matters: which rough draughts are afterward
all

all put together, and presented first to the council, and then to the company to receive all proper alteration, as they shall please. And thus every thing is drawn up and concluded upon the opinion and advice of many. After due commendation of his modesty as well as his ability, it was replied to him; Mr. Deputy, That these papers before us are the production of one Pen, is very plainly discernible: they are Jewels that all come out of one rich cabinet, of which we have undoubted reason to believe that you are the true Possessor.

The Lords under the influence of Gondomar were now abashed and silent; only one of them said to the accusers of the company, What strange and unaccountable measures are these that you have taken! to have us called together, and to make us sit and hear all these things, which are entirely opposite to your own informations, and which meet, as you find, with universal approbation. To which one man of a bold spirit replied, We shall still in the end carry

our point. These, my good Lord, are not the letters and instructions which we meant. The company have others no doubt in private, which they secrete, and which if they could now be found, would quickly silence them. We have lately heard of things passing in their courts which would surprize you. On which one of the council rose and said, My Lords, such malevolence and injustice is unequalled: such proceedings are not to be endured. But unprincipled malice has a face too brazen to be ashamed of any thing. The Lords then rose, and the adversaries of the company were much confounded, having now with all honest and impartial men entirely lost all credit.

The very night after this meeting, one of the clerks of the council came to Lord Southampton and told him that his deputy had that day gained a most compleat victory, and had extorted the highest commendations even from the Lords of the adverse party: and it was supposed that proposals would be made to him to engage in the
King's

King's immediate service. But for all that, my Lord, said he, depend upon it, such the times are, your patent is irretrievably gone.

Lord Southampton communicated this information to the Lords and Gentlemen interested in the company, saying, You all well know that those things which our enemies thought would have been to their advantage and our damage, have hitherto all turned out to our credit and to our honour, nevertheless, all will not help us. It is determined that our patent shall be taken away, and the company dissolved. The King, I find, has resolved to have the management of the plantation in his own hands, to direct, and govern as he sees best. A thing indeed worthy a King's care: but, alas! alas! this is all but a colourable shew. For you will find in the end that this worthy company will be broken, and come to nothing. We must all arm ourselves with patience.

Mr. Ferrar had now gained the highest

reputation with all ranks of men for the uncommon abilities which he displayed on every occasion, and the esteem for his great virtues was unbounded, but especially with those who were interested in the affairs of the Virginia company. At this time a citizen of the first class both for riches and reputation paid him a visit, and after the warmest expressions of the highest opinion of his extraordinary talents, and integrity, thus continued, Mr. Ferrar, I have an only daughter, who, if paternal affection doth not too much influence my judgment, is both wise and comely: indeed it is confessed by all that she is very beautiful, I know her to have been virtuously educated, to be well accomplished, and to be of an amiable disposition. If you will be pleased to accept of her as your wife, I will immediately give you with her ten thousand pounds. Mr. Ferrar was much surprised, returned his sincere thanks, but said he was not worthy of so great a treasure. The citizen however persisted, said he was really in earnest to bring about the connection; that at present
 he

he only made his proposal with intent to give him an opportunity to consider of it. After a few days he came again, and asked Mr. Ferrar if he had advised with his friends concerning his proposal, saying, They all know me well. Mr. Ferrar answered that he had not; for you I perceive, Sir, are greatly mistaken in me, first in having too high an opinion of my abilities, and next with respect to my estate, which you perhaps may conceive to be what it is not. I think myself infinitely obliged to you for your good will towards me, and for honouring me so far as to think, what I cannot think of myself, that I am any way worthy of so inestimable a treasure as your daughter. Mr. Ferrar, he replied, do not talk thus to me: for I know you perfectly well; and as for your estate, I give myself no manner of concern about it. What fortune you have I demand not to know. Let it be what it will; if you have nothing, I thank God that I have enough to make you and my daughter happy as to all worldly matters. And as to my own part, I shall think myself
the

the happiest man upon earth to have you my son in law, and my daughter must be equally happy to have so accomplished, and so virtuous a man for her husband.

By means of an intimate friend of the father, an interview was brought about at this friend's house between the young Lady and Mr. Ferrar, where in a select company they passed several hours together. The father then took a convenient opportunity to ask his daughter what she thought of Mr. Ferrar, to which she answered, Nothing but good. Can you then like him for a husband? to which with equal ingenuousness and modesty she replied, Sir, I shall with pleasure do in this, as well as in all other things, as you will please to have me: my duty and my inclination will go together. Matters being so far advanced, the father said to Mr. Ferrar, Now, Sir, you have seen my daughter, I hope her person and deportment are such as to merit your approbation. As to your own estate, nothing is desired to be known. Be that as it may; I have enough;
I like

I like you, and my daughter submits herself to my choice. Now let me have your answer. Mr. Ferrar replied, The young Lady your daughter, Sir, is in every respect not only unexceptionable, but highly to be admired: she is beautiful, and accomplished, and amiable to the greatest degree, and far superior to all that I can merit: indeed I do not, I cannot deserve this great happiness. I return you my sincerest thanks for your unequalled goodness to me; and in the confidence of friendship I will now acquaint you with the private and fixed determination of my mind. If God will give me grace to keep a resolution long since formed, I have determined to lead a single life; and after having discharged, to the best of my ability, my duty to the company, and to my family as to worldly concerns, I seriously purpose to devote myself to God, and to go into a religious retirement. Thus ended this affair, and the father ever after preserved the most affectionate friendship for Mr. Ferrar.

After

After the unworthy part which the King, influenced by Gondomar, had taken in the persecution of the Virginia company, the deputy had now indeed a great encrease of trouble in managing their concerns. But in truth and justice to his friends it must be said, that Lord Southampton, the Earl of Dorset, the Earl of Devon, Lord Paget, Sir Edwyn Sandys and many others, gave him all the assistance in their power. But all to no purpose. For the King, notwithstanding his royal word and honour pledged to the contrary, notwithstanding the grant under the Great Seal of England, notwithstanding all that should bind the conscience, and direct the conduct of an honest man, was now determined with all his force to make the last assault, and give the death blow to this, as yet, prosperous and thriving company.

At this juncture a full testimonial came from the Colony, proving the healthiness of the climate, and the fruitfulness of the country, against the slanderous informations
of

of that Cap. Butler, who had been suborned by Gondomar and his agents to spread defamatory reports concerning a country of which he knew nothing, having only been there in his flight from justice, and having suddenly stolen away from thence to avoid being seized by authority for his scandalous proceedings.

This testimonial being exhibited at the Council board, the Lords in Gondomar's interest became enraged, and resolved upon the last violence. They therefore now drew up a great number of charges, utterly false, and slanderous, against both the Company and the Colony, under the invention and direction of Gondomar, and the Lord Treasurer Cranfield. These accusations were given to the latter, and he now undertook either by consent to get, or by force to wring the patent out of the hands of the company.

With this view on the Thursday before Easter, 1623, a council was called, and the deputy and others were sent for to attend.

Who

Who being come, the Lord Treasurer presented those papers of accusation to the Lords, saying that they contained a charge which the deputy and company must answer by the next Monday. For that a longer time would not, and should not be allowed them. Mr. Ferrar taking up the bulky bundle, said he thought it impossible to assemble the company, and answer so many, and such strange articles in so short a time as two days; for Sunday was not a day for business, and therefore he humbly besought their Lordships to allow him only a week, and he would desire no more. Upon this the Lord Treasurer cried out in great wrath, Not an hour longer than till Monday afternoon, and therefore take up the papers and be gone.

These papers on examination were found to contain a huge parcel of absolute falsehoods, which the enemies of the company had invented, and drawn out to such an unreasonable length, that by the shortness of the time allowed (which was preconcerted with

with the Lord Treasurer) it was thought impossible that the agents for the company should give in any answer: that then Gondomar and his party would be triumphant, and able to boast that the Virginia company either could not, or durst not answer their accusation.

Mr. Ferrar however dividing the charge into three parts, giving one to Lord Cavendish, another to Sir Edwyn Sandys, and taking the third to himself, and employing six clerks very ready with the pen, to copy fair, continuing at the work without interruption, night and day, allowing but two hours for sleep, and refreshment, did actually produce and lay before the council, a compleat answer at the time appointed. The Lords were assembled and making themselves merry with the expected embarrassment of the Virginia company. But in a very short time their merriment was converted into shame and confusion. A clerk was ordered to read the answer. The reading took up full six hours. When it was done, all
was

was a considerable time deep silence and astonishment. The adversaries of the company were all perplexed, and confounded, and in shame retired home. They had however sufficient presence of mind to secrete and convey away the Answer they had required. It never appeared more, and the company never heard what became of it.

The Spanish match being yet intended, and prosecuted, during this negociation the King was the absolute slave of Gondomar, to do without regard to honour or justice whatsoever he should advise to be done. In consequence of this infatuation, the deputy, and thirty more of the directors, and principal persons of the Virginia company were now served with a Writ of Quo Warranto, and commanded to shew by what authority, they pretended to exercise a power over the plantation, and to send a Governor thither: and by this process the company now were obliged to go to Law to defend their right.

After many delays the cause came on to
be

be pleaded. The great plea which the King's
 Attorney General (Coventry) brought against
 them was, " That it was in general an un-
 " limited, vast patent. In particular, the
 " main inconvenience was, that by the words
 " of the charter, the company had a power
 " given them to carry away, and transport
 " to Virginia, as many of the King's loving
 " subjects as were desirous to go thither.
 " And consequently, he said, by exercising
 " this liberty, they may in the end carry
 " away all the King's subjects into a foreign
 " land; and so leave his Majesty a kingdom
 " here indeed, but no subjects in it. And
 " if this should be the case, What will then
 " become of him, or of us? This is certainly
 " a strange clause, and the patent wherein
 " it is contained, ought to be forfeited."

This weighty argument extorted a smile
 even from the Judges, and the Lawyers con-
 cerned to carry on the prosecution. Never-
 theless, it was admitted: for the determina-
 tion was made, previous to entering upon
 the merits of the cause, what the decree

should be. The Attorney General then proceeded, and said he had found a flaw in the company's answer, which if admitted, contained on the one hand too much, and on the other too little; and therefore, being such a nicety in Law, he craved sentence upon it as insufficient.

Sentence was thereupon given, " That the
 " Patent, or Charter of the company of Eng-
 " lish merchants trading to Virginia, and pre-
 " tending to exercise a power and authority
 " over his Majesty's good subjects there,
 " should be thenceforth null, and void *."

The

* Rapin says that the plantation in Virginia was a sort of Puritan plantation; " for Archbishop Bancroft, he tells us, never ceasing to plague the Puritans, in order to compell them to conform to the Church of England, great numbers of those people resolved to go and settle in Virginia. Accordingly some departed. But the A. B. seeing more, ready to take the same voyage, obtained a proclamation, commanding them not to go without the King's express Licence. For the court was apprehensive this Sect would in the end become too powerfull in America." Vol. IX. p. 312.

This is all which he says of it. Whereby it appears that he as well as other Historians, knew only the colour, and nothing at all of the true reason of these proceedings against the Virginia plantation. F. P.

The King was at the bottom of this whole proceeding, which from beginning to end was a despotic violation of honour and of justice; which proved him to be a man void of every laudable principle of action; a man who in all his exertions made himself the scorn† of those who were not in his power, and the detestation of those who were; a man whose head was indeed encircled with the Regal Diadem, but never surely was Head more unworthy or unfit to wear it.

The great reputation of Mr. Ferrar being now spread over all parts of the country by the members of the late dissolved Virginia company, he was in 1624‡, elected a member

† He became the public jest, and object of ridicule to all the states of Europe.

‡ That Mr. Ferrar was in Parliament this year, and was very much employed in business there, appears plainly from the following extracts from the journals of the house of Commons: it is also mentioned in many letters and papers belonging to the family; but neither in these, nor in the MS. from which I write, is it said for what place he was elected; nor can I discover it by any enquiry in my power.

Mr. Peck has left the following note. "I once
K 2 " thought

ber of Parliament. As this in a general consideration was highly proper on account of

“thought that Mr. Ferrar’s election was for the Town
“of Hertford, as Mrs. Ferrar had a considerable estate
“and a large house there. But it appears by the corpo-
“ration book of that Town that Tho. Fanshaw, and
“Wm. Ashton, Esqrs; were elected Burgesses for that
“borough, May 17, 1624. This information I owe to
“the humanity of Rich. Reynolds, Esq; now (Feb.
“1735) deputy Recorder of Hertford.” F. P.

1624, Lunæ, 26 Apr. Mr. Ferrar delivereth in a petition from the Treasurer, Council, and Company of Virginia. Read. A committee of several, and all that will come. Those that are of the company to be present, to inform, but to have no voice. Wednesday, 2 o’clock. Starchamber. Council on both sides.

1624, Jovis, 29 Apr. Mr. Speaker — this morning he received a letter from his Majesty concerning a petition exhibited to this house about the Virginia business. Read.

1624, Mercurii, 19 Maii, Sir Edwyn Sandys and Mr. Ferrar to draw a petition concerning undue exaction of fees.

Do. Do. Do. post merid. The King to be petitioned about exacted fees. Sir Edwyn Sandys and Mr. Ferrar to draw up this petition.

20 Maii, Sir Edwyn Sandys moves for a select committee to peruse the draught he and Mr. Ferrar have made for grievances on Trade.

1624, May 22, Resolved upon question that these abuses shall be preferred in a petition of grievances to the King for redress, and punishment of the offenders. Sir Edwyn Sandys and Mr. Ferrar to do this.

May

of his extensive abilities, and known integrity; so was there a peculiar propriety in his election at this time; as there was an intention now to call to account before the house of Parliament, those persons who had abused the King's ear, and had been guilty of those violent enormities in the false accusation of the managers of the Virginia company. For it was well known that Mr. Ferrar was not only more accurately acquainted with all the circumstances of that affair than any other person, but had also abilities and firmness sufficient to carry on the prosecution in a proper manner.

The

May 24, Petition of grace, not grievances upon question ordered to be drawn by Sir Ed. Sandys, and Mr. Ferrar.

May 25, The committee thought fit a petition of right, &c. Sir Ed. Sandys and Mr. Ferrar to do it.

May 25, Mr. Comptroller delivered a message from the King to the committee of grievances — thought the house need not meddle with it this session — will have the honour himself of recalling the patent.

May 28, Sir Ed. Sandys and Mr. Ferrar to examine grievances, &c.

28, That Mr. Ferrar be present to morrow.

The Prince being now returned from Spain in great discontent, the Spanish party at court began in some degree to lose their influence. The Parliament met. Mr. Ferrar was appointed one of several committees. Sir Edwyn Sandys, and many other members of the late Virginia company were also in this Parliament. A charge was brought in against the Ld. Treasurer, the Earl of Middlesex, for taking bribes, and divers other exorbitancies committed in the execution of his office; and also for his conduct in the Virginia affair, and his violence in taking away the patent, and dissolving the company.

On this occasion the house appointed the Ld. Wm. Cavendish, Sir Edwyn Sandys, and Nicholas Ferrar to draw up the charge against him and those others, who had been his instruments in that scandalous proceeding. The charge was soon drawn up, as Mr. Ferrar had all the necessary materials ready in his hands. The accusation was opened by him in a speech which lasted two hours,

hours, and which gained him universal admiration. For now he was fully and publicly seen in this exertion of his great abilities. The Ld. Treasurer was deprived of his office, and punished by a large fine, and imprisonment *.

The iniquity of the Virginia business being fully proved, and laid before the public, by Mr. Ferrar, and the other managers, the house resolved to take the whole affair into their serious consideration, and endeavour to restore the company. But before they could make any progress they received a
message

* Lionel Cranfield, a merchant of London, having for his great abilities been first made master of the requests, Nov. 20, 14 Jac. next master of the King's great wardrobe, then Jan. 15, 16 Jac. master of the wards: afterwards Jan. 15, 18 Jac. a privy councillor, and Jul. 9, 19 Jac. advanced to the degree of a Baron of this realm, by the title of Lord Cranfield of Cranfield in Com. Bed. was on Oct. 13, following, made Lord Treasurer of England; and by letters patent, Sep. 16, 1622, created Earl of Middlesex: but in the Parliament of 22 Jac. he was deprived of his office of Ld. Treasurer, fined fifty thousand pounds, and committed prisoner to the Tower of London. Dugd. Extinct Bar. Vol. II. p. 446.

message from the King "That he both
 " already had, and would also hereafter take
 " the affair of the said late Virginia com-
 " pany into his *own* most serious considera-
 " tion and care: and that by the next Par-
 " liament they should all see he would make
 " it one of his *master pieces*, as it well de-
 " served to be." And thus was all farther
 proceeding in that matter dishonourably
 stayed. For, as the event shewed, all these
 were nothing but fair words without any
 other intention than to stop the business.
 No care was taken of the plantation, but all
 was left to go to ruin. The violence and
 injustice, and other miseries consequent up-
 on this falsehood, and repeated breach of
 honour in the King would supply a large
 story: but for divers reasons they are not
 proper to be here inserted.

When Mr. Ferrar was first elected deputy
 Governor of the company, and by his office
 became accurately acquainted with all their
 circumstances, he was soon convinced of the
 unbounded influence of Gondomar, of the
 King's

King's astonishing infatuation, his total disregard of truth, and justice, his absurd vanity, with the obstinacy and tyranny of his disposition. Such a King as James, was the properest instrument that could be found for such a workman as Gondomar; and Mr. Ferrar plainly saw the malice of the one, and the folly of the other; and like a wise man provided all in his power against future contingencies. He saw that Gondomar by means of the King would probably ruin the company; and that if they should carry this point, they most likely would cause all the court books, registers, instructions, and all other writings of the company to be taken away from their officers: that if opportunity should afterward be offered, they might never be able to make use of them either for their own justification, or in refutation of the false accusations of their enemies. He did not therefore depend upon the present promising appearance of their affairs: he knew that malice was at work; and he had frequently seen a temporary calm precede the most destructive storm.

Being

Being under apprehensions of this sort, about a year before the dissolution of the company, he procured an expert clerk fairly to copy out all the court books, and all other writings belonging to them, and caused them all to be carefully collated with the originals, and afterward attested upon oath by the examiners to be true copies. The transcribing of which cost him out of his own pocket above 50*£*: but this he thought one of the best services he could do the company.

When the Lords of the council therefore had (as before related) seized the originals, Mr. Ferrar had all these attested copies, as yet unknown to any of the company, safe in his possession. But now when the Ld. Treasurer had procured sentence in form against the company, and all their muniments had been taken from them, Mr. Ferrar informed Sir Edwyn Sandys, and some other of his most intimate friends, what a treasure he had yet remaining in his hands; and desired their opinion how he might best
dis-

dispose of them. On hearing this they were equally surpris'd and overjoyed, and unanimously desired him to carry them to their late worthy Governor the Earl of Southampton. He did so, and farther told his Lordship, that he now left them entirely to his Lordship's care and disposal: that if hereafter there should be opportunity, he might make use of them in justification of his own, and the late company's most honourable and upright proceedings.

The Earl of Southampton cordially embracing Mr. Ferrar, said to him, You still more and more engage me to love and honour you. I accept of this your present as of a rich treasure. For these are evidences that concern my honour. I shall value them therefore even more than the evidences that concern my lands: inasmuch as my honour, and reputation are to me of more estimation than wealth or life itself. They are also the testimonials of all our upright dealings in the business of the late company and the plantation. I cannot therefore express

press how highly I think myself obliged to you for this instance of your care and foresight.

Soon after this interview, Ld. Southampton was advised not to keep these books in his own house, lest search should be made there for them; but rather to place them in the hands, and entrust them to the care of some particular friend. Which advice, as the times then stood, he thought proper to follow. He therefore delivered them into the custody of Sir R. Killegrew, who kept them safely till he died. He left and recommended them to the care of Sir Edward Sackville, late Earl of Dorset, who died in May, 1652: and it is hoped that this noble family still hath them in safe keeping*.

Mr.

* On application to the Duke of Dorset, his Grace with the utmost liberality of mind, and most polite condescension directed his library to be searched for this manuscript. The search was fruitless; but some detached papers were found which his Grace most obligingly sent to me. From these, as containing as far as they go, authoritative proof of the matters advanced in the preceding

Mr. Ferrar having seen the dissolution of the Virginia company, and no hope left of its

ing narration, I shall here insert the following extracts, amounting, as I think, to that degree of evidence for the veracity of these Memoirs which will be satisfactory to every impartial reader.

I take this opportunity to make my sincere acknowledgments to Mr. Hooker of Tunbridge for his obliging readiness, and the great care and trouble he has had in making this investigation.

The Duke of Dorset's papers are in several separate parcels; and that which is marked No. 21, contains a letter from Sir George Yearly to the council in the following terms,

Right Honourable, &c.

The people here having taken notice of his Majesty's proclamation against the importation of Tobacco, have offered unto us the petition herewith sent, desiring us to be a means so to commend it unto you as that it may be presented to his Majesty, and his gracious answer thereunto obtained, which their desire together with our own, we do hereby offer unto you, humbly entreating it may be delivered in as humble and effectual a manner as may be, seeing the life of the plantations dependeth on the welfare of it. And so we humbly leave you and the success thereof to the pleasure of the Almighty, and remain yours in all humble service

Geo. Yearly, Geo. Thorpe,
James City, Tho. Mue, Jo. Rolf,
Jan. 23, 1620. Nath Powle, J. Kenntes.
Jo. Pory, Secr.

To

its revival, took his leave of the Virginia affairs by now paying the 300£, left by his father

To the King's most excellent Majesty, the humble petition of the distressed Colony in Virginia.

Shewing that whereas it pleased your Majesty now many years since out of your religious desire to spread the Gospel of Christ, and princely ambition to enlarge your own dominions, to give encouragement to us your Majesty's poor subjects, by many goodly priviledges and liberties, under your Majesty's Great Seal of England (than which we could account no earthly thing more firm) to adventure our lives and fortunes hither for those intents: in which enterprizes to tell how great things many of us have suffered through hunger alone, would be as incredible as horrible to report to your sacred ears; which difficulties we by the favour of God having in some sort overcome, and brought ourselves to some ability of subsistence, without any other help from England but only by course of Mr. Sandis, we are now like to be returned to the same or worse difficulties by the sinister practices of some principal persons of our own company, as some, who pretending your Majesty's profit but intending their own more, have gone about to blow us up at our meeting with a proclamation which they have penned from your Majesty (as we hope upon some false grounds) prohibiting our importation of Tobacco, the only commodity which we have hitherto had means to raise towards the apparelling our bodies, and other needful supplements; other things of more real value, and constant sale requiring more time in the growth than our necessities would allow, and more helps to practise than we have till of late been furnished withal; by which course
we

father for the purpose of erecting a College there, to the Governor and company of the
Somers

we are plunged into so great extremities, that now remains neither help nor hope, but that here we must all perish for want of cloathing and other necessaries, such as both our nature sometimes, and breeding may require; whereby your Majesty shall not only lose so many good and loyal subjects as have hither adventured their lives and substance, in God's service and your Majestys, but with them the hope of a territory and lands, as opulent to be made as any of those kingdoms which you now possess.

May it therefore please your Majesty out of your princely compassion, since we are assured that you tender the lives, and welfare of your subjects beyond thousands of gold and silver, and your royal word ratified by your Great Seal far above both, either to revoke that proclamation, and so restore us to our antient liberty, or otherwise to send for us all home, and not to suffer the heathen to triumph over us and say, Where is now their God? so shall we all as we are in duty bound pray for your Majestys long life and happy reign.

This application was made in the year 1620, and we see by the stile of the petition what sort of measures the King had taken to deprive the company of those rights which he had solemnly granted under the Great Seal of England, and the pledge of his own honour.

After this a negotiation was carried on between the Ld. Treasurer and the company, by which they came to an agreement that on certain payments made to the King, the company should be permitted to continue: but
this

Somers Islands: binding them in articles to send for three Virginia children, and bring them

this was no better than a robbery. At length this matter was compromised on the following

Propositions agreed on by the Ld. H. Treasurer of England, and the company of Virginia and Summer Islands touching the sole importation of Tobacco.

By this agreement they are to have the sole importation, which is not confined to England.

The paper containing these propositions (marked No. 12. in the D. of Dorset's collection) is an authentic paper: it is signed by the Ld. Treasurer's own hand. The authenticity of the signature, *Middlesex*, is sufficiently proved by its precise agreement with the fac simile of his writing in the Repertorium Chiro. Technicum preserved in the Pepys Library in Magdalen College, Cambridge. This deed is dated Feb. 27, 1622.

These propositions were laid first before a quarterly court, July 3, and again, according to the rules of the company before a Great General Court, July 10, 1622. They are as follow.

Propositions, &c.

1. That the sole importation be granted under letters patent to the Virginia company.
2. That all others are inhibited under pain of confiscation.
3. That the planting Tobacco in England and Ireland be prohibited.
4. That in consideration, the company shall pay to his Majesty the clear proceed of a third, provided they shall not be constrained to import more than they think fit.

5. That

them up in those islands: and when of fit age to put them out to some proper business:

or

5. That a medium be taken of the last seven years, and his Majesty have the third.
6. That his Majesty be disburthened from all payment of freight, &c. if he will pay the third of landing, carrying, housing, keeping, tending, curing, sorting, &c.
7. Concerns the adjustment of sale, &c.
8. Restraints upon the company concerning Spanish Tobacco.
9. Concerns a rate to be settled.
10. The number of licences.
11. The means of preventing other importations.
12. The preventing the importation of Spanish Tobacco.
13. Confiscations.
14. The disposal of the confiscations.
15. Survey of Tobacco now remaining.
16. That this contract begin at Michaelmas, 1622, for seven years.
17. That the grant be construed beneficially for the company. Signed, Concordat, Ed. Collingwood, Secr.

These propositions are contained in the paper marked No. 12. and signed, *Middlesex*.

The paper marked No. 7. contains the account above-mentioned of the Spanish, Virginia, and Bermudas Tobacco, for the years 1615, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 1621. That marked No. 18. contains an abstract of this account for the time specified.

By the paper marked No. 1. it appears that there had immediately after this transaction been some management between the Treasurer and a private court for the company to pay in money, it is a *copy of the order of court for*

or else educate them in learning and then
send them back to the place of their birth,
to

paying, &c. in specie, and is dated within a week of the preceding agreement.

At a court for Virginia the 17th of July, 1622.

It was agreed to pay the custom of Tobacco in specie, rather than the medium, and that this should be signified to the Ld. Treasurer, acknowledging that *this inferior court* hath no power to alter that which was solemnly ratified in a *Great General Court*; not doubting but if the next great court for Virginia shall not approve thereof, they shall entreat his Lordship their first order may stand.

Ed. Collingwood, Secr.

The management in this instance requires not any comment.

Soon after the agreement with the company signed by the Ld. Treasurer, several schemes were set in motion to defeat the purpose of it, and deprive the company of their privileges, under the specious pretence of advantage to the King. One is called (pap. No. 5.) a project how his Majesty may gain 40,000*£*. a year by the importation of Virginia and Bermudas Tobacco, &c. it is dated June 30, 1622. This was an attempt, within three days of the preceding order, to break the Treasurer's agreement with the company before the day on which it was to have taken place, and is nothing more than a plan, in direct breach of contract, to put a large sum of money in his Majesty's pocket, by *forcing* the company into some measures of which they did not approve: for in the 8th article it is said, That if the Virginia and Bermudas company will not be willing to agree with his Majesty, *then let them be forced* to bring in all the Tobacco of their coun-

to convert their countrymen: and that
when the first three were thus disposed of,
three

countries into the port of London, none of which shall be sold till it be sealed, &c. Another is called, Reasons for a free trade of Tobacco. Another, Reasons against the contract. Another, Reasons against the sole importation. Another, Propositions, &c. with notes, and corrections of the Ld. Treasurer: all in favour of the King, and injury of the company.

The paper marked No. 13. contains a full answer to the calumnies against the company and a clear justification of the integrity of their proceedings. But beside the attempts which were in some degree public, there were other offers of a private nature to which I shall not give the name they deserve.

The paper marked No. 17. contains the two following propositions.

J. S. doth humbly offer unto his Majesty for the farm of Spanish Tobacco, not exceeding 60,000 lb. wt. 10,000*£*. a year for seven years.

J. S. doth farther in all humbleness offer unto his Majesty for setting open the trade of Spanish Tobacco, with injunction that all the Virginia and Bermudas Tobacco shall be brought *into this kingdom*, and will be bound to give unto his Majesty 10,000*£*. a year, to be paid half-yearly, or within 40 days after each rent day.

It seems as if this bribe had been accepted, for the paper marked No. 10. implies that notwithstanding the patent, notwithstanding a positive agreement that the company might import into Ireland, and elsewhere, there had nevertheless been an *order of council to prohibit importation, except into England*; it is entitled

three other should from time to time be sent for in succession for the same benevolent purpose.

And

The humble answer of the company, &c. to the Lords of the privy council touching their *command* for importing *all* Tobacco, and *all* other goods into England; setting forth their willingness to obey, but specifying the grievance, and the impossibility of so doing; stating the contradiction of this command to the express words of the King's letters patent, under the Great Seal: the breaking the privileges, and immunities thereby granted: by virtue of which the company have also granted sub-patents with the same liberties and privileges as they themselves enjoy: whereby the Patentees have been induced to go in person to those plantations, fundry of them being of noble and worthy families, and to expend, some of them great sums, and others their whole estates in those plantations; and that it is not now in the power of the company to revoke, or restrain their former grants; the bare attempt whereof would dishearten all present and future adventurers. Many other grievances are then specified which prove this order of council to be an act of the highest injustice and tyranny. The answer concludes thus, Lastly, your Lordships may be pleased to be advertised that by his Majestys letters patent we are expressly restrained from concluding any thing touching the settling of trade, otherwise than in our four great quarterly courts, to be held in the four terms. Nevertheless in the mean time we shall do our best endeavours for holding of the trade so much as may be to this realm; which we suppose can by no means be so well effected as by the continuance first of his Majesty's gracious Grace,
and

And thus ended Mr. Ferrar's public life,
in which he displayed many proofs of great
and

and next of your Lordships accustomed favour to the
plantations.

But no attention was paid either to their humble applications or the justice of their cause. Nothing less than *all* can satisfy an avaritious tyrant. He forcibly wrested from the company their patent in the manner as hath been related.

There are still in my possession many original papers referring to the patent, and the proceedings of several of the principal adventurers under that authority: many examinations and depositions taken on oath, and clearly evincing the shameful practices that had been used against the company. There are also many papers of a different sort, proving the integrity and honour of the company in all their proceedings: shewing their intentions, and projects for erecting furnaces, and forges for iron works; their plans for raising and multiplying mulberry trees; and their truly patriotic designs in various other articles of great importance: their schemes for laying out their allotments: for experiments in order to improve and cultivate their lands to the best account: particularly a letter to Mr. Ferrar upon this subject, signed Nicholas Hyde, from the Middle Temple, May 9, 1622. There are also many other papers containing accurate registers of the persons sent over, male or female, the county, parish, age, and occupation of each, with directions for their proper accommodation. One of these orders may suffice as an example.

Lieutenant Perkinson, "the bearer hereof, Abigail Downing, widow, hath paid for her own passage; so that

and extensive abilities, and of uncommon virtue, particularly of indefatigable diligence, industry, and activity, by which he gained universal admiration, and performed many important services, both to the Virginia company, and all others with whom he was concerned.

The King having seized the patent and dissolved the Virginia company, and Mr. Ferrar having seen the attested copies of all the books and papers belonging to them delivered into safe custody in the Dorset family, he was now disengaged from public cares, and determined to carry into execution the plan he had long set his heart upon, to bid
farewel

she is free to dispose of herself when she cometh to Virginia. But if she think good to live with you, the adventurers are content that you allow her victual, and diet, as to your other people; and farther, they desire you to have a care of her, and let her have your good counsel and advice, for bestowing her upon some honest man; her kindred are honest people of good fashion, and well known to divers of the society. During the time of her staying with you, she hath promised to take pains, and do all service that is fit: so we pray you, if she deserve better, to make her some other recompence."

farewel to the busy world, and spend the remainder of his days in religious retirement, and a strict course of devotion.

Yet before he could compleat his pious purpose it was necessary for him finally to settle some matters of great consequence, though of a private nature, which had been entrusted to his care. His established reputation for inflexible integrity had influenced several persons to prevail with him to undertake the executorship of their wills, and the settlement of their worldly affairs: and in some of these instances this trust concerned property of great value, and was involved in circumstances of great difficulty. Beside these occupations relative to the property of others, the situation of his brother required his immediate and close attention. Mr. John Ferrar had been for three years deputy Governor of the Virginia company, and in order to give himself up wholly to the discharge of that important trust, he had put into the hands of his partners in mercantile business seven thousand pounds,

and assigned the management of those affairs over to them. He also advanced six thousand pounds more to them, for which he was engaged by a personal security. Whether it were by mismanagement or misfortune does not at present appear, but about this time the concerns of this partnership were fallen into the greatest confusion, and involved in the utmost embarrassment. Mr. N. Ferrar nevertheless by his great sagacity, and indefatigable industry, in a shorter time than could be believed, extricated his brother from all his difficulties, and settled his affairs in the most honourable manner at the loss of about three thousand pounds.

His next care was to provide a place fitted for the purpose and corresponding with his ideas of religious retirement. His mother had indeed a very large house in London, in which had been holden the meetings of the Virginia company: she had also a considerable estate, and a large house in the town of Hertford. But neither of these places had his approbation, both being too much in view of the public.

At length he was informed that the Lordship of Little Gidding in the county of Huntingdon was to be sold. He immediately went thither to examine the place and premises, which he found with respect to privacy of situation exactly suited to his wishes. It was a parish that had been for some time depopulated. Nothing was left but one extremely large mansion house, going hastily to decay, and a small Church within thirty or forty paces of the house, and at that time converted into a barn. Upon his return to London he purchased the whole lordship, and this purchase was made in the year 1624.

But now the plague having been some time in London, was in the year 1625 spread over most parts of the town, and was discovered to be at the very next door to Mrs. Ferrar's house. Mr. N. Ferrar was therefore very urgent that she and the family would immediately depart into the country: but while she lingered, being unwilling to leave him behind, he procured a coach and at length prevailed: and that very night,
Whitsun-

Whitsun-eve, she with her son John, and the rest of the family went to her house at Hertford, and the following week to her daughter Collet's at Bourne Bridge in Cambridgeshire.

Mr. N. Ferrar would have attended his mother, but that he had not compleatly settled his brother's affairs. During this business, Mr. J. Ferrar, leaving his mother at Bourne, went to Gidding to make some necessary preparation there for the reception of the family, who were now become very unhappy at the stay of Mr. N. Ferrar in London, as they had been informed that the disorder was fatal every week to more than four thousand persons*. As soon as he had finished

* Whitlock says that at this time the plague raged with such violence in London, that in one week died 5000 persons. That it also spread into many places in the country, where whole families were swept away by it. That it fell to Judge Whitlock's turn to adjourn the Michaelmas term, and that he went from his house in Buckinghamshire so as to arrive early in the morning at Hyde Park corner; where he and his retinue dined on the ground on provisions they had brought in the coach. He drove very speedily through the streets, which were empty
of

finished the business which required his stay, he, with great joy and gratitude to God, repaired to Gidding: from whence he wrote to his mother entreating her not to come to him in less than a month, that it might appear whether he had brought away any infection with him. But her impatience to see him was so great, that three days after she rode thither, and their meeting was such as might, at that time, be expected between a pious parent and a dutiful son, to the highest degree mutually affectionate. In its circumstances indeed very different from the modern meetings of parent and son: for he, though twenty seven years of age, who had been engaged in many public concerns of great importance, had been a distinguished member of Parliament, and had conducted with effect the prosecution of the prime minister of the day, at first approaching his mother, knelt upon the ground to ask, and
 receive

of people and overgrown with grass, to Westminster Hall; where the officers being ready, he went directly to the King's Bench, adjourned the court, and immediately returned into the country. In this year in London died of the plague 35,417. Memorials.

receive her blessing. Modern customs indicate a great change of manners with respect to the reverence then thought due to parents. He then besought her to go into the house, rude as it was, and repose herself. This she refused till she had given thanks to God in the Church, which was very near at hand. But she was exceedingly grieved to find it filled with hay, and instruments of husbandry. Immediately all the workmen, many in number, employed in the repair of the house, were set to cleanse, and repair the Church: for she said she would not suffer her eyes to sleep, nor her eyelids to slumber, till she had purified the temple of the Lord, and made it a habitation fit for the living God. In about a month's time, finding that all danger of infection was over, she sent for her beloved daughter Collet, and her husband, and all their numerous family to come and live with her at Gidding.

Mrs. Ferrar was now seventy three years of age, yet was she possessed of so much vigour,

gour, and had so much of the appearance as well as the reality of health, that all who saw her concluded her to be not more than forty. Her family now consisted of near forty persons; and it being a season of deep humiliation on account of the mortality then become general all over the kingdom, it was determined to address themselves to God, as often as they conveniently could, according to the doctrine and discipline by Law established in the Church of England. To this end, Mr. N. Ferrar obtained permission of his old acquaintance Bp. Williams to have the service performed in the Church, which was now put into decent repair; and he procured the Minister of the adjoining parish to read the morning service every day at eight o'clock, the Litany at ten, and the evening service at four. On the Sunday mornings the whole family went to Steeple Gidding, and in the afternoon, the Minister of that parish, and his parishioners came to the Church newly repaired by Mrs. Ferrar.

At Easter, 1626, the plague being then
ceased,

ceased, Mr. N. Ferrar and his mother, and some other of the family went to London, to dispose of their great house there, to settle their remaining affairs, and to take a final leave of all their friends. When they had been some little time in London, he resolved, in order the better to carry on his religious plan by his own personal assistance, to become a Deacon. This resolution he communicated to none but his honoured Tutor, Dr. Lindfel, who highly applauded it, and introduced him to Dr. Laud, then Bp. of St. Davids, by whom he was ordained Deacon on the Trinity Sunday following.

On his return home he addressed himself to his mother, and shewed her in a writing signed, a vow which he had made with great solemnity; That since God had so often heard his most humble petitions, and delivered him out of many dangers; and in many desperate calamities had extended his mercy to him; he would therefore now give himself up continually to serve God to the utmost of his power, in the office of a Deacon:

con: into which office he had that very morning been regularly ordained. That he had long ago seen enough of the manners, and of the vanities of the world; and that he did hold them all in so low esteem, that he was resolved to spend the remainder of his Life in Mortifications, in Devotion, and Charity, and in a constant preparation for Death.

There is reason to believe that even in his infancy, and before he set out upon his travels, and after his great escape upon the Alps, he did privately, and solemnly devote himself to God; and that after his unexpected recovery from his dangerous illness both at Padua, and Marseilles, he repeated these pious resolutions, adding also a vow of perpetual celibacy. This, if true, may account for his extraordinary continence (though in the full prime and vigour of life) in refusing the offer of a young Lady of incomparable beauty and rare accomplishments: of the most amiable disposition, and of an immense fortune; who had also ingenuously

genuously confessed that he had won her highest approbation and esteem. Instances of such firmness of mind and self-denial seldom occur.

The news of Mr. Ferrar being ordained was soon spread abroad both in the city and at court; as in both he was universally known and very highly esteemed. His constant friends the Marquis of Hamilton, Ld. Pembroke, and Sir Edwyn Sandys took this opportunity of saying to him, That though he had formerly refused all temporal emoluments, yet now he had taken Orders, they must suppose that he had not any objection to Spiritual preferment, and immediately made him an offer of some ecclesiastical benefices of great value. These he refused with steadiness and humility, saying that he did not think himself worthy. He added also that his fixed determination was to rise no higher in the Church, than the place and office which he now possessed, and which he had undertaken only with the view to be legally authorised to give spiritual assistance,

according to his abilities, to his family or others, with whom he might be concerned. That as to temporal affairs, he had now parted with all his worldly estate, and divided it amongst his family. That he earnestly besought his honoured friends to accept his sincere thanks for their good opinion of him, for whose prosperity both in this world and a better he would never cease to pray. And now having finished all business in London, and taken a solemn and final leave of all their friends, he and his mother returned to Gidding.

It now comes in course to speak of the established œconomy both of the house and the Church; and it is hoped that the reader will here excuse a circumstantial relation: because on these very circumstances, misapprehended, and misrepresented, were founded all the calumnies and persecution which the family afterward suffered.

Many workmen having been employed near two years, both the house and Church

M

were

were in tolerable repair, yet with respect to the Church Mrs. Ferrar was not well satisfied. She therefore new floored, and wainscotted it throughout. She provided also two new suits of furniture for the reading desk, pulpit, and communion table: one for the week days, the other for Sundays, and other festivals. The furniture for week days was of green cloth, with suitable cushions and carpets. That for festivals was of rich blue cloth, with cushions of the same, decorated with lace, and fringe of silver. The pulpit was fixed on the north, and the reading desk over against it, on the south side of the Church, and both on the same level: it being thought improper that a higher place should be appointed for preaching, than that which was allotted for prayer. A new font was also provided, the leg, laver, and cover all of brass, handsomely and expensively wrought and carved; with a large brass lectern, or pillar and eagle of brass for the Bible. The font was placed by the pulpit, and the lectern by the reading desk.

The half-pape, or elvated floor on which the communion table stood at the end of the Chancel, with the stalls on each side, was covered with blue taffety, and cushions of the finest tapestry and blue silk. The space behind the communion table, under the east window, was elegantly wainscotted, and adorned with the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostles' Creed, engraved on four beautiful tablets of brasse, gilt.

The communion table itself was furnished with a silver patin, a silver chalice, and silver candlesticks, with large wax candles in them. Many other candles of the same sort were set up in every part of the Church, and on all the pillars of the stalls. And these were not for the purposes of superstition, but for real use; which for great part of the year the fixed hours of prayer made necessary both for morning and evening service. Mrs. Ferrar also taking great delight in Church music, built a gallery at the bottom of the Church for the organ.

Thus was the Church decently furnished, and ever after kept elegantly neat and clean.

All matters preparatory to order and discipline being arranged and settled, about the year 1631, Dr. Williams, the Bp. of Lincoln, came privately to Gidding, to pay a visit to his old friend Mr. N. Ferrar, with whom he had contracted a friendship at the Virginia board, and for whom he ever held the highest and most affectionate esteem.

By this visit he had an opportunity to view the Church, and the house, and to examine into their way of serving God, which had been much spoken against; to know also the soundness of the doctrine they maintained: to read the rules which Mr. N. Ferrar had drawn up for watching, fasting, and praying, for singing psalms and hymns, for their exercises in readings, and repetitions; for their distribution of alms, their care of the sick, and wounded; and all other regularities of their institution. All which the Bishop highly approved, and bad them in God's name to proceed.

In 1633 Mrs. Ferrar came to a resolution to restore the glebe lands and tithes to the Church, which some fourscore years before had been taken away, and in lieu thereof only 20*£*. a year paid to the Minister. She had from the first been so resolved, but had been put off by unexpected delays. She found great difficulty in making out the glebe lands: but at length by the industry of Mr. N. Ferrar she overcame it. She then sent her sons John and Nicholas with a letter to the Bishop informing him of her determination, and desiring it might be confirmed by his authority. This authority from the Bishop was farther strengthened by a decree in chancery under Ld. Coventry.

In the spring of 1634, the Bp. to make some acknowledgment of this generosity, gave notice, that he would again pay a visit to the family and give them a Sermon. And it being known that he was a lover of Church music, application was made to Dr. Towers, Dean of Peterborough, who sent his whole choir to Gidding on the occasion.

Divine service was performed throughout in the Cathedral manner with great solemnity: The Bp. preached a Sermon adapted to the occasion, and in the afternoon gave confirmation to all of the neighbourhood who desired it.

Every thing relative to the Church being now compleatly settled, Mr. Ferrar next turned his attention to the disposition of the mansion. The house being very large, and containing many apartments, he allotted one great room for their family devotions, which he called the oratory, and adjoining to this, two other convenient rooms, one a night oratory for the men, the other a night oratory for the women: he also set out a separate chamber and closet for each of his nephews and nieces: three more he reserved for the schoolmasters; and his own lodgings were so contrived that he could conveniently see that every thing was conducted with decency and order: without doors he laid out the gardens in a beautiful manner, and formed in them many fair walks.

Another

Another circumstance that engaged his attention was, that the parish had for many years been turned into pasture grounds; that as there was a very large dovecote, and a great number of pigeons upon the premises, these pigeons must consequently feed upon his neighbours corn; and this he thought injustice. He therefore converted this building into a schoolhouse, which being larger than was wanted for the young people of the family, permission was given to as many of the neighbouring towns as desired it, to send their children thither, where they were instructed without expence, in reading, writing, arithmetic, and the principles of the Christian Religion.

For this and other purposes he provided three masters to be constantly resident in the house with him. The first was to teach English to strangers, and English and Latin to the children of the family: the second, good writing in all its hands, and arithmetic in all its branches: the third, to instruct them in the theory and practice of music, in

singing, and performing upon the organ, viol, and lute: on the last instrument his sister Collet was a distinguished performer.

For all these things the children had their stated times and hours. So that though they were always in action, and always learning something, yet the great variety of things they were taught prevented all weariness, and made every thing be received with pleasure. And he was used to say that he who could attain to the well-timing things, had gained an important point, and found the surest way to accomplish great designs with ease.

On Thursdays, and Saturdays in the afternoons, the youths were permitted to recreate themselves with bows and arrows, with running, leaping, and vaulting, and what other manly exercises they themselves liked best. With respect to the younger part of the females, the general mode of education was similar to that of the boys, except where the difference of sex made a
 diffe-

different employment or recreation proper. When the powers of reason and judgment became in some degree matured, they were all at proper times taken under the immediate instruction of Mr. Ferrar himself, who bestowed several hours every day in that important employment. According to the capacity of each he gave them passages of scripture to get by heart, and particularly the whole book of Psalms. He selected proper portions of which he gave a clear explanation, and a judicious comment. But above all things he was anxiously attentive to daily catachetical lectures, according to the doctrine of the Church of England. And in order to make his pious labours extensively beneficial, he invited the children of all the surrounding parishes, to get the book of Psalms by heart. To encourage them to this performance, each was presented with a psalter: all were to repair to Gidding every Sunday morning, and each was to repeat his Psalm, till they could all repeat the whole book. These Psalm-children, as they were called, more than a hundred in number,

ber, received every Sunday, according to the proficiency of each, a small pecuniary reward and a dinner, which was conducted with great regularity. For when they returned from Church, long trestles were placed in the middle of the great hall, round which the children stood in great order. Mrs. Ferrar, and her family then came in to see them served. The servants brought in baked puddings and meat: which was the only repast provided on Sundays for the whole family, that all might have an opportunity of attending Divine service at Church. She then set on the first dish herself, to give an example of humility. Grace was said, and then the bell rang for the family, who thereupon repaired to the great dining room, and stood in order round the table. Whilst the dinner was serving, they sang a hymn to the organ: then grace was said by the Minister of the parish, and they sat down. During dinner one of the younger people, whose turn it was, read a chapter in the Bible, and when that was finished, another recited some chosen story out of the book

book of Martyrs, or Mr. Ferrar's short histories. When the dinner was finished throughout the family, at two o'clock the bell summoned them to Church to evening service, whither they went in a regular form of procession, Mr. N. Ferrar sometimes leading his mother, sometimes going last in the train: and having all returned from Church in the same form, thus ended the *public* employment of every Sunday.

Immediately after Church the family all went into the oratory, where select portions of the Psalms were repeated, and then all were at liberty till five o'clock: at which hour in summer, and six in winter, the bell called them to supper: where all the ceremonial was repeated exactly the same as at dinner. After supper they were again at liberty till eight, when the bell summoned them all into the oratory, where they sang a hymn to the organ, and went to prayers; when the children asked blessing of their parents, and then all the family retired to their respective apartments; and thus ended the private observation of the Sabbath.

On the first Sunday of every month they always had a communion, which was administered by the Clergyman of the adjoining parish; Mr. N. Ferrar assisting as Deacon. All the servants who then received the communion, when dinner was brought up, remained in the room, and on that day dined at the same table with Mrs. Ferrar, and the rest of the family.

That I may not be thought to conceal any thing which brought censure upon them, and led to their persecution, I will here insert the particular mode of their processions, and other circumstances which were condemned by some, as being superstitious. I shall not pass any judgment myself on these ceremonials, relating meer matter of fact, and observing only that where there was error, it was error on the side of virtue and goodness.

When their early devotions in the oratory were finished they proceeded to Church in the following order,

First,

First, the three schoolmasters, in black gowns, and Monmouth caps.

Then, Mrs. Ferrar's grandsons, clad in the same manner, two and two.

Then, her son Mr. J. Ferrar, and her son in law Mr. Collet, in the same dress.

Then, Mr. N. Ferrar, in surplice, hood, and square cap, sometimes leading his mother.

Then, Mrs. Collet, and all her daughters, two and two.

Then, all the servants, two and two. The dress of all was uniform.

Then, on Sundays, all the Psalm-children, two and two.

As they came into the Church, every person made a low obeisance, and all took their appointed places. The Masters, and Gentlemen in the chancel: the youths knelt on the upper step of the half-pace: Mrs. Ferrar, her daughters, and all her grand-daughters in a fair island seat. Mr. N. Ferrar at coming in made a low obeisance; a few paces farther, a lower; and at the half-pace, a
lower

lower still: then went into the reading desk, and read matins according to the book of Common Prayer. This service over, they returned in the same order, and with the same solemnity. This ceremonial was regularly observed every Sunday, and that on every common day was nearly the same. They rose at four; at five went to the oratory to prayers; at six, said the Psalms of the hour; for every hour had its appointed Psalms, with some portion of the Gospel, till Mr. Ferrar had finished his concordance, when a chapter of that work was substituted in place of the portion of the Gospel. Then they sang a short hymn, repeated some passages of scripture, and at half past six went to Church to matins. At seven said the Psalms of the hour, sang the short hymn, and went to breakfast. Then the young people repaired to their respective places of instruction. At ten, to Church to the Litany. At eleven to dinner. At which season were regular readings in rotation, from the scripture, from the book of Martyrs, and from short histories drawn up by Mr. Ferrar,

Ferrar, and adapted to the purpose of moral instruction. Recreation was permitted till one; instruction was continued till three. Church at four, for evensong; supper at five, or sometimes six. Diversions till eight. Then prayers in the oratory: and afterwards all retired to their respective apartments. To preserve regularity in point of time, Mr. Ferrar invented dials in painted glass in every room: he had also fundials, elegantly painted with proper mottos, on every side of the Church: and he provided an excellent clock to a sonorous bell.

The short histories alluded to above were probably composed on the occasion, and to suit some present purpose. Those which are still remaining in my possession are put together without any regularity of series, or any dependence of one upon another, and are as in the catalogue annexed*.

In

* L I V E S.

The life of Monica.

The life of the Lady Paula.

Of Abraham.

Of Hyldegardis.

Of Eliezer.

Of Paracelsus.

The

In the remains of the maiden sister's exercises, published in the 2d Vol. of Caii
Vin-

The life of Dr. Whitaker.	The life of Bp. Ridley.
Of Scaliger.	Of L. Jane Grey.
Of Mr. Perkins.	Of Q. Elizabeth.
Of Dr. Metcalf.	Of Gus. Adolphus.
Of Sir Fran. Drake.	Of the Black Prince.
Of Mr. Cambden.	Of Joan Q. of Naples.
Of Haman.	Of the Witch of Endor.
Of Wolfsey.	Of Joan of Arc.
Of Brandon D. of Suffolk.	Of Cæsar Borgia.
Of Ld. Burleigh.	Of Jehu.
Of Sir J. Markham.	Of Andronicus Commenus.
Of St. Augustin.	Of the Duke of Alva.

C H A R A C T E R S.

The good Wife.	The good Parishioner.
The good Husband.	The good Patron.
The good Parent.	The good Landlord.
The good Child.	The good Mr. of a College.
The good Master.	The good Schoolmaster.
The good Servant.	The good Merchant.
The good Widow.	The good Yeoman.
The constant Virgin.	The Handicrafts Man.
The elder Brother.	The good Soldier.
The younger Brother.	The good Sea-Captain.
The good Advocate.	The good Herald.
The good Physician.	The true Gentleman.
The controversial Divines.	The Favourite.
The true Church antiquary.	The wise Statesman.
The general Artift.	The good Judge.
The faithful Minister.	The good Bishop.

The

Vindiciæ, beginning at p. 713, there are several stories which are not in the MS. remaining with me. The story of K. Pyrrhus is not there, nor Trajan, nor Phillip the 3d of

The true Nobleman.	The Hypocrite.
The Court Lady.	The Heretic.
The Embassadour.	The rigid Donatist.
The good General.	The Liar.
The heir Apparent to the Crown.	The common Barreter.
The King.	The degenerous Gentleman.
The Harlot.	The Pazzians Conspiracy.
The Witch.	The Tyrant.
The Atheist.	

GENERAL RULES, OR ESSAYS.

C H A P.

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|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Of Hospitality. | 14. Of Tombs. |
| 2. Of Jestings. | 15. Of Deformities. |
| 3. Of Self-praising. | 16. Of Plantations. |
| 4. Of Travelling. | 17. Of Contentment. |
| 5. Of Company. | 18. Of Books. |
| 6. Of Apparel. | 19. Of Time-serving. |
| 7. Of Building. | 20. Of Moderation. |
| 8 Of Anger. | 21. Of Gravity. |
| 9. Of expecting Preferment. | 22. Of Marriage. |
| 10. Of Memory. | 23. Of Fame. |
| 11. Of Fancy. | 24. Of the Antiquity of Churches, and the Necessity of them. |
| 12. Of Natural Fools. | 25. Of Ministers Maintenance. |
| 13. Of Recreations. | |

of Spain, and his confessor Florentius, nor Hen. 4, of France, nor Sapritius, nor several others. Nevertheless they all bear the strongest internal evidence of being the production of the same author who wrote those in my possession. These Lives, Characters, and Moral Essays would, I think, fill two or three volumes in octavo, but they are written in so minute a character that I cannot form any conjecture to be depended upon. They are but a small part of the MS. works which Mr. Ferrar left behind him, which, as appears from some papers still existing, amounted to five volumes in folio. He was of opinion that instruction merely by precept might sometimes become dry and wearisome, and therefore was desirous to enliven his lectures by something that might give pleasure to the fancy at the same time that it conveyed wisdom to the heart. But he had great objection to Plays, Novels, and Romances, and to Poems that were then, and indeed have ever since been in great esteem. He thought that in many instances they did not tend to the important
point

point which he had in view. But he reflected also that our Saviour himself frequently delivered his discourses in Parables; and therefore that Fable, to a certain degree, might be admitted in moral instruction. With this view he composed those stories, and essays, which were intended to enliven their readings, and conversations. Beside these, he drew up regular discourses upon all the Fasts, and Feasts of the Church, and these also in their order made part of the readings. Every one of the young people, from the eldest to the youngest, male and female, was exercised every day in these public readings, and repetitions: by which the memory was wonderfully strengthened, and they all attained great excellence in speaking with propriety and grace. It is to be wished that this method were at the present day more attended to than it is, and especially by those whose business and profession requires them frequently to speak in public.

But now four of Mr. Collet's eldest daughters being grown up to woman's estate, to

perfect them in the practice of good housewifery, Mr. Ferrar appointed them in rotation to take the whole charge of the domestic œconomy. Each had this care for a month, when her accounts were regularly passed, allowed, and delivered over to the next in succession. There was also the same care and regularity required with respect to the Surgeon's chest; and the due provision of medicines and all things necessary for those who were sick, or hurt by any misfortune. A convenient apartment was provided for those of the family who chanced to be indisposed, called the Infirmary, where they might be attended, and properly taken care of, without disturbance from any part of the numerous family. A large room was also set apart for the reception of the medicines, and of those who were brought in sick, or hurt, and wanted immediate assistance. The young Ladies were required to dress the wounds of those who were hurt, in order to give them readiness and skill in this employment, and to habituate them to the virtues
of

of humility, and tendernefs of heart.* The office relative to Pharmacy, the weekly inspection,

* In the reliques of antient English Poetry we read "As to what will be observed in this ballad (Sir Cauline) of the art of healing being practised by a young Princess, it is no more than what is usual in all the old Romances, and was *conformable to real manners*; it being a practice derived from the earliest times among all the Gothic, and Celtic nations for women even of the highest rank to exercise the art of Surgery. In the northern chronicles we always find the young damsels flatching the wounds of their lovers, and the wives those of their husbands. And even so late as the time of Q. Elizabeth it is mentioned among the accomplishments of the Ladies of her court, that the eldest of them are *skilfull in Surgery*." Rel. of Ant. Eng. Poetry. Introd. to Sir Cauline, p. 39.

"I could set down the ways and means whereby our antient Ladies of the court do shun and avoid idleness, while the youngest sort applie to their Lutes, Citharnes, Prick-song, and all kinds of music: how many of the eldest sort also are skilfull in Surgery, and Distillation of Waters, &c. I might easily declare, but I pass over such manner of dealing, lest I should seem to glaver, and currie favour with some of them." Harrisson's Descrip. of Eng. before Hollingshead's Chron. p. 196. col. 2. l. 20.

This historian, we see, considers it even as a species of flattery to say of a court Lady, that she was *skilful in Surgery*. And from these extracts it appears, that the mode of education adopted by Mr. Ferrar, was in many instances that of the time in which he lived, and now

spection, the prescription, and administration of Medicines, Mr. Ferrar reserved to himself, being an excellent Physician: as he had for many years attentively studied the Theory, and Practice of Medicine, both when Physick Fellow at Clare Hall, and under the celebrated Professors at Padua. In this way was a considerable part of their income disposed of, and thus did Mr. Ferrar form his nieces to be wise and useful, virtuous, and valuable Women.

Very unlike indeed is this mode to the modern System of Female Education! in which all order with respect to times and seasons is subverted; all sense of subordination lost, all idea of Duty derided; in which the night is given to riot, and the day to unrefreshing sleep: in which the constitution is undermined, the body enfeebled by the rage for dissipation, and the great purpose of nature with respect to a future generation defeated:

seems extraordinary only on comparison with the different system which has been gradually introduced in the course of near two centuries.

defeated: since it frequently happens that when children come to the birth, there is not strength to bring forth; in which also it is too often shewn that true feminine modesty is of no esteem, while in the dance the fashionable Fair exhibits the bold front, the wanton glance, and lascivious gesture of the mercenary Performer on the Public Theatre.

Pliant of limb, the blooming maid
Now joys to learn the wanton trade
Of Dance indecent, and to prove
The pleasures of forbidden love. FRANCIS*.

How striking a contrast does this form to the plan of Mr. Ferrar, who instructed his nieces to adorn themselves after the manner of the holy women of old time, whose chaste conversation was coupled with fear: whose adorning was not the external decoration of plaiting the hair, or wearing gold, or putting on apparel, but that which is of unchangeable value, the ornament of a meek and quiet

* *Motus doceri gaudet Ionicos*
Matura virgo, et fingitur artubus
Jam nunc, et incestos amores
De tenero meditatur ungui. HOR. Od. 1. 3. O. 6.

quiet spirit. Thus did Mr. Ferrar's nieces
by his instructions

—————improve their native charms
With inward Greatness, unaffected Wisdom,
And Sanctity of manners*.

In

* The different characters formed by these opposite modes of Education are drawn in his own peculiar ease and elegance by V. Bourne in his *Melissa*.

Bene moribus morata
Non elaborat illa de die in diem
Se fingere, et refingere,
Vultumve curiosa sumit artifex
Ab hac, ab illa Pyxide.
Nec dislocandis, et locandis crinibus
Quos iterum et iterum dislocet
Absumit horas, unam ineptam aciculam
Deciesque figens et movens.
Nec visitando pultat has et has foras
Ut portet importunum Ave.
Nec initiatur mysticis congressibus
Noctisque cæremoniis
Vel induens larvam vel obnubens caput
Lasciviat ut audentior.
Nec, inveniustis ut fritillis increpet
Et aleis impalleat
Tenebras ad usque Solis ortum vigiliis
Lucemque dat soporibus :
Dulces diei, et noctis invertens vices
Ratasque leges temporum.

—————cum *Melissa* conjuge
Intrare pronubas videbis Gratias

Sacrumque

In order to give some variety to this system of education, he formed the family into a sort of collegiate institution, of which one was considered as the founder, another guardian, a third as moderator, and himself as visitor of this little academy. The seven virgin Daughters formed the junior part of this Society, were called the Sisters, and assumed the names of 1st. The Chief. 2d. The Patient. 3d. The Chearful. 4th. The Affec-

Sacrumque Virtutum chorum.
 Sine arte compta et elegans sine tædio
 Aderit Venuſtas : et Salus
 Suo rubore roſea ; et Innocentia
 Candente purior nive.
 Accedet his Virtutibus pia Humilitas
 Nunquam immemor Dei, aut Sui.
 Regina Gratiarum aderit Humanitas
 Perferre facilis et pati
 Humana ſi natura quid deliquerit
 Aut caverit ſi quid parum ;
 Famulabitur caſtū intuens Modeſtia
 Et docta cultu Urbanitas.
 His cum Sodalibus Meliſſa Gratiis
 Ducetur ad tuam domum,
 Solando quæ curarum amara leniat
 Et conſulendo temperet ;
 Fruendo quæ felicitates augeat
 Et quæ novis addat novas.

Affectionate. 5th. The Submiss. 6th. The Obedient. 7th. The Moderate. These all had their respective characters to sustain, and exercises to perform suited to those characters.

For the Christmas season of the year 1631, he composed twelve excellent discourses, five suited to the Festivals within the twelve days, and seven to the assumed name and character of The Sisters. These were enlivened by hymns and odes composed by Mr. Ferrar, and set to music by the music master of the family, who accompanied the voices with the Viol, or the Lute. That exercise which was to be performed by The Patient, is alone to be excepted. There was not any Poetry, or Music at the opening of this as of all the rest; the discourse itself was of a very serious turn, it was much longer than any other, and had not any historical anecdote, or fable interwoven into the body of it. The contrivance here was to exercise that virtue which it was intended to teach.

Upon

Upon the whole, these and many other Dialogues, Conversations, Histories, Fables, and Essays, which Nicholas Ferrar penned for the immediate use of his family, and left behind him in many large volumes, if ever the world should be so happy as to see them, will best shew what he was, a man every way so compleat, that few ages have brought forth his equal; whether we consider his vast memory, his deep judgment, his rare contrivance, or the elegance of stile in the matter, and manner of his compositions*.

Amongst other articles of instruction and amusement Mr. Ferrar entertained an ingenious bookbinder who taught the family, females as well as males, the whole art and skill of bookbinding, gilding, lettering, and what they called pasting-printing, by the use of the rolling-press. By this assistance he composed a full Harmony, or Concordance of the four Evangelists, adorned with many
beau-

* These valuable performances were nearly all destroyed in the general devastation of the place by the Fanatic Zealots of the times soon after the death of Mr. Ferrar.

beautiful pictures, which required more than a year for the composition, and was divided into 150 heads or chapters. For this purpose he set apart a handsome room near the oratory. Here he had a large table, two printed copies of the Evangelists, of the same edition, and great store of the best and strongest white paper. Here he spent more than an hour every day in the contrivance of this book, and in directing his nieces, who attended him for that purpose, how they should cut out such and such particular passages out of the two printed copies of any part of each Evangelist, and then lay them together so as to perfect such a head or chapter as he had designed. This they did first roughly, and then with nice knives, and scissars so neatly fitted each passage to the next belonging to it, and afterwards pasted them so even and smoothly together, upon large sheets of the best white paper, by the help of the rolling-press, that many curious persons who saw the work when it was done, were deceived, and thought that it had been printed in the ordinary way.

This

This was the *mechanical method* which he followed in compiling his Harmony. The title of his book was as follows.

“ The Actions, Doctrines, and other Pas-
 “ sages touching our blessed Lord and Sa-
 “ viour J. Christ, as they are related in the
 “ four Evangelists, reduced into one com-
 “ pleat body of history: wherein that which
 “ is severally related by them is digested into
 “ order; and that which is jointly related
 “ by all or any of them is, first, expressed
 “ in their own words, by way of Compa-
 “ rison; secondly, brought into one narra-
 “ tion by way of Composition: thirdly, ex-
 “ tracted into one clear context by way of
 “ Collection; yet so as whatsoever was omit-
 “ ted in the context is inserted by way of
 “ Supplement in another print, and in such
 “ a manner as all the 4 Evangelists may be
 “ easily read severally and distinctly; each
 “ apart and alone from first to last: and in
 “ each page throughout the book are fun-
 “ dry pictures added, expressing either the
 “ facts themselves, or their types and figures;
 “ or

“ or other things appertaining thereunto.
 “ The whole divided into 150 heads.”

I cannot help transcribing here a passage from Dr. Priestley's Preface to his Harmony of the Evangelists. “ If I should be thought
 “ to have succeeded better than the genera-
 “ lity of my predecessors, I shall attribute
 “ it chiefly to *the mechanical methods* I made
 “ use of in the arrangement of it; which
 “ were as follow. I procured two printed
 “ copies of the Gospels, and having can-
 “ celled one side of every sheet, I cut out all
 “ the separate histories, &c. in each Gospel,
 “ and having a large table appropriated to
 “ that use, I placed all the corresponding
 “ parts opposite to each other, and in such
 “ an order as the comparison of them (which
 “ when they were brought so near together
 “ was exceedingly easy) directed.

“ In this loose order the whole Harmony
 “ lay before me a considerable time, in
 “ which I kept reviewing it at my leisure,
 “ and changing the places of the several
 “ parts

“ parts of it, till I was as well satisfied with
 “ the arrangement of them, as the nature
 “ of the case would admit. I then fixed
 “ the places of all these separate papers, by
 “ pasting them, in the order in which they
 “ lay before me, upon different pieces of
 “ pasteboard, carefully numbered, and by
 “ this means also divided into sections.”

This exact agreement in contrivance between two men of uncommon genius and abilities, with respect both to the plan and conduct of the work; men living at a hundred and sixty years difference of time, men too in learning, penetration, and judgment perfectly qualified for so arduous an undertaking, affords the strongest presumptive proof of the excellence of the method, and at the same time the highest recommendation of it to the observation and practice of all who are engaged in a similar course of study.

Several of the Harmonies* were after-
 ward

* The book in St. John's College library at Oxford (said to be compiled by the Nuns of Gidding) is one of these

ward finished upon the same plan with some improvements: one of these books was presented to Mr. Ferrar's most dear and intimate friend, the well known Mr. Geo. Herbert †, who in his letter of thanks for it, calls

these Harmonies, being all patch-work. Mr. T. Hearne's Append. to Caius. Vol. II. p. 312. I have some reason to doubt the authenticity of this passage in Mr. Hearne.

† Mr. Geo. Herbert was an eminent English Poet and Divine, brother to the celebrated Ld. Herbert of Cherbury. He was born at Montgomery Castle in Wales, April 3, 1593, was educated at Westminster school, and in 1608 elected into Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1619 he was chosen Orator of the University, which office he held eight years; in which time he made himself perfect master of the Italian, Spanish, and French languages, being in hopes to obtain the place of Secretary of State, as he was highly esteemed by the King, and most eminent of the Nobility. But his hopes of preferment at court failing on the death of the D. of Richmond and the Marquis of Hamilton (two distinguished friends of Nicholas Ferrar) he took orders; and in July, 1626, was collated to the Prebend of Leighton in the Church of Lincoln, and the same year was made Rect. of Bemerton in Wilts, to which he was presented by the King. His Poems, entitled *The Temple*, were printed at London, 1635; and his *Priest to The Temple or Country Parson's Character*, &c. was published by Mr. Barn. Oley at London, 1652, and a third edition, 1675. He was highly valued by the most eminent men of that age. Dr. Donne inscribed to him some Latin verses, and Lord Bacon dedicated to him his

calls it a most inestimable jewel; another was given to his other singular friend Dr. Jackson ‡. The fame of this work, the
pro-

his translation of some Psalms into English verse. He died not long before his friend.

See his Life by Walton; and in the Gen. Dictionary.

‡ Dr. Tho. Jackson, a very learned Divine in the 17th century, was descended of a very worthy family in the Bishoprick of Durham, was born at Witton on the Weer, Dec. 21, 1579. He was first a student of Queen's College, Oxford, under the tuition of the celebrated Logician of that day Mr. Rich. Crakenthorp. He was chosen Scholar of Corpus Christi College, Mar. 24, 1596. He became D.D. June 26, 1622. He delivered a lecture in Divinity every Sunday morning in his own College, and on some day in the week at Pembroke College then newly erected. Soon after he became Vicar of Newcastle upon Tyne, where he discharged his duty in a most exemplary manner, and was much followed and admired for his excellent way of preaching. In 1630 he was elected President of Corpus. He was then made Chaplain to the King, and in 1635 Prebendary of Winchester. In 1638 he was promoted to the Deanery of Peterborough. He died Sep. 21, 1640, and was interred in the inner Chapel of Corpus Christi College. He was great master of all the difficult subjects of Theological controversy at that time in agitation. His works are published in three large Vols. folio. He was furnished with all learned languages, arts, and sciences, especially Metaphysics; which he considered as the handmaid to Divinity: he was also profoundly versed in the Fathers. He had a strong judgment, and wrote with great vigour
O
against

production of a man so celebrated as the author had been, soon reached the ears of the King, who took the first opportunity to make himself personally acquainted with it, by obtaining the perusal of it.

Mr. Ferrar about this time wrote several very valuable treatises, and made several translations from authors in different languages, on subjects which he thought might prove serviceable to the cause of Religion. Among others, having long had a high opinion of John Valdes's *Hundred and ten Considerations*, &c.* a book which he met with
in

against the Church of Rome. In this capacity, Mr. Oley declares, that no one is so convincing and demonstrative as Dr. Jackson. He was a man of a blameless life, studious, humble, charitable and pious; and he was extremely beloved by all, except the rigid Calvinists, who considered him as an Arminian. See his Life prefixed to his Works by Mr. Vaughan, by A. Wood, and in the Gen. Dictionary.

* It may not be improper here to give a short account of this celebrated man, and his no less celebrated work. In an old French translation of his *110 Considerations*, &c. there is a brief history of him, by which it appears that he was of a noble family in Spain; that he was a soldier under Charles the 5th, and was knighted by him; that
after

in his travels, he now (in 1632) translated it from the Italian copy into English, and sent

after some years spent in a military life he desired leave to retire. When Charles enquired whether his request proceeded from disgust, his answer was, It is necessary that a soldier before his death should give some time to religious meditation. He left his native country and retired to Naples; where he became the head of a sect of reformers, and many persons of great distinction attended his lectures. He was particularly connected with Bernard Ochin, Peter Martyr, and other learned men of great character amongst the reformers of that time; and he attacked with success many of the corruptions of the Church of Rome. Thus far is collected from the old French Preface.

By some, Valdeffo was thought to lean too much to the doctrines of the Unitarians, in opposition to the Trinitarian System. And this circumstance, I suppose, may account for a passage in Mr. Geo. Herbert's letter to Mr. N. Ferrar concerning his translation of this work, which he earnestly desires may be published, notwithstanding some things which he does not approve. Mr. G. Herbert was a conscientious Trinitarian; but being of a liberal mind overlooked speculative differences in opinion, to promote the general interest of Religion. But farther than this, there are undoubtedly some passages in Valdeffo, in which he seems to depreciate the authority of the scriptures; and this might give just cause of offence.

The French edition of Valdeffo referred to above was published at Paris in the year 1565, and was taken from an Italian translation of the original Spanish: in which, it is said, were preserved not only some of the idioms, but

sent it to be examined and censured by his friend Mr. Herbert, before it was made public.

also many words of the Spanish original. This circumstance, not being of any great importance, I have not examined its authenticity.

An English translation was printed at Oxford in 1638: which, notwithstanding that it hath not any translator's name, I hesitate not to pronounce it the translation by Mr. N. Ferrar. And for these reasons. Mr. Ferrar sent his translation to Mr. Herbert, who returned it with a letter, expressing his approbation, and mentioning the notes he had made upon dubious and offensive passages. Such notes appear before this translation: and Mr. Herbert's letter to Mr. Ferrar, still in possession of the Editor, is precisely the same with that prefixed to the work, and entitled, *The Letter by Mr. G. Herbert to his Friend, the Translator*. But Mr. Herbert did not write such commendatory letter to any translation of Valdesso but that by Mr. Ferrar. It is also licensed for the press by Mr. Ferrar's other great friend Dr. Jackson. And Mr. Barnabas Oley, speaking of Valdesso's work, and of the affectionate friendship between Nicholas Ferrar, Mr. G. Herbert, and Dr. Jackson, makes this remark: "Though Valdesso differed in some points from them all, yet they all so agreed in him, as that Master Ferrar translated him into English: Master Herbert commented on him, and commended him to use: and Dr. Jackson allowed him for the press." Oley's first preface, p. 226 *.

Now

* Mr. Barnabas Oley was educated in Clare Hall, and took the degree of B.A. 1621. The Editor is in possession of two letters from Dr. Byng to Mr. N. Ferrar, in recommendation of Mr. B. Oley, requesting Mr. Ferrar's protection and interest that

public. Which excellent book Mr. Herbert returned with many marginal notes, and
criti-

Now these three circumstances being proved to belong to Mr. Ferrar's translation, and being found in the translation printed at Oxford in 1638, and there being no other translation existing to which they can be applied; for these reasons I hope it will not be thought presumption in me to pronounce the translation printed at Oxford, to be that made by Mr. N. Ferrar.

I have been thus particular on this point, in order to ascertain to the public some undoubted remnant of the pious labours of this truly great and good man. The Title-page is, *The hundred and ten Considerations, &c.* written in Spanish, brought out of Italy by Vergerius, and first set forth in Italian, at Basil by Cælius Secundus Curio, 1550. Afterward translated into French, and printed at Lyons, 1563, and again at Paris, 1565. And now translated

that Mr. Oley might be elected into a Fellowship of Clare Hall; the first dated Oct. 15, 1623: and the second upon the same subject dated Oct. 22 the same year: he was elected Fellow the 28th of Nov. following, and was made M.A. 1625.

He was Vicar of Great Gransden in Huntingdonshire 53 years. He was also Prebendary of Worcester, and Archdeacon of Ely. For having been Tutor to Bishop Gunning, his Pupil (when Bishop) would needs force that Archdeaconry upon him, which he soon after resigned.

He had a Mandate to be D.D. dated April 14, 1663, but refused that honour.

He was a learned, laborious, and very respectable man, and the author of several valuable publications. He died at Great Gransden, and was buried there, Feb. 22, 1685.

"Mr. Oley, Mr. Thirscrofs, and Mr. Herbert Thorndike, were some of those great and good men who with incomparable sanctity of life have adorned this worst age, altogether worthy of a better." Dr. Barwick's Life.

criticisms, as they are now printed with it; with an affectionate letter also recommending the publication*.

In

lated out of the Italian into English with notes. Whereunto is added a Preface of the Author's to his Commentary on the Romans. Oxford, printed by Litchfield, 1638.

Exclusive of the Prefaces, the Notes, and Letters, the work consists of 311 pages close printed in small quarto.

If it should be asked why Mr. Ferrar, who was perfect master of the Spanish as well as the Italian language, chose to translate from a translation rather than the original, he himself has given the reason, in his own Preface.

"These truly Divine Meditations of Sir John Valdesso, a Nobleman of Spain, (who died almost a hundred years ago) having been so acceptable to pious Vergerius, to learned Cælius Secundus Curio, and to many other both French and Italian Protestants, that they have been translated out of the original Spanish copy, and printed three or four times in those languages; it seemeth to me a reasonable, and a charitable desire, to print them now in English, without any alteration at all from the Italian copy: *the Spanish being either not extant, or not easy to be found.*"

Translator's Preface to Valdesso.

Upon the 32^d Consideration shewing "In what consisteth the Abuse, and in what the Use of Images, and of Holy Scripture," I find this note by Mr. Ferrar: These two Considerations, 32, and 33 being read together, may vindicate the Author's good meaning from his dubious and offensive expressions in the present Consideration.

* My dear and deserving brother, your Valdesso I return
with

In May, 1633, his Majesty set out upon his journey to Scotland; and in his progress he

with many thanks, and some notes, in which perhaps you will discover some care.—It is true there are some things which I do not like in him, as my fragments will express when you read them: nevertheless I wish you by all means to publish it. For there are three things observable therein.

First, that God in the midst of Popery should open the eyes of One so clearly to understand, and express the excellent intent of the Gospel.

Secondly, the great honour and reverence which the Author every where bears toward our Lord and Master.

Thirdly, the many pious rules for ordering our Life, of which he himself was a very diligent observer.

These three things are very eminent in the Author, and overweigh the defects towards the publishing thereof.—Geo. Herbert, Bemerton, Sep. 29, 1632.

Extr. from Mr. H's Letter to Mr. Ferrar.

“ John Valdesso was a Spaniard of great learning and
“ virtue, much valued by Charles 5, whom he had at-
“ tended in all his wars. When he was grown old, and
“ weary both of war and of the world, he took a proper
“ opportunity to declare to the Emperor his resolution to
“ decline the military service, and betake himself to a quiet
“ contemplative life, because, he said, there ought to be
“ some vacancy of time between Fighting and Dying.

“ It happened that at that time the Emperor himself
“ had made, though not publicly declared the same re-
“ solution. He therefore desired Valdesso to consider
“ well what he had said, and conceal his purpose till they
“ might have opportunity for a friendly discourse about

he stepped a little out of his road to view
 Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire, which
 by

“ it. This opportunity soon offered, and after a pious
 “ and free discourse together, they agreed that on a cer-
 “ tain day they would publickly receive the Sacrament.
 “ At which time the Emperor appointed an eloquent
 “ Friar to preach on the Contempt of the world, and the
 “ happiness of a quiet, contemplative Life.

“ After Sermon the Emperor declared openly that the
 “ Preacher had begotten in him a resolution to lay down
 “ his dignities, to forsake the world, and betake himself
 “ to a Monastic life. And he pretended that he had also
 “ persuaded John Valdesso to do the like. Not long
 “ after, they carried their resolutions into execution.”
 This account stands upon the authority, and is nearly in
 the words of Mr. Nich. Ferrar.

Mr. Ferrar about this time also translated the Hygiasticon, or the right course of preserving Health, by Leonard Lessius. The manuscript of this he sent to Mr. Herbert, desiring him to peruse it well, and help him to make it proper for the public. Accordingly Mr. Herbert made several remarks upon it, and with it returned his own translation of a Treatise upon Temperance, written by Cornaro, which he desired, when N. Ferrar printed Lessius, might be published with it. And they were accordingly both joined in one book and printed together. The Editor has an edition of this translation in 24^o. with Mr. Herbert's translation of Cornaro annexed; and a *Paradox* translated out of Italian, shewing, That a spare diet is better than a splendid and sumptuous. To this little volume are prefixed several copies of recommendatory verses, by Peter Gunning, pupil to B. Oley, and afterwards

by the common people was called the *Protestant Nunnery*. The family having notice, met his Majesty at the extremity of the parish, at a place called, from this event, the King's Close: and in the form of their solemn processions conducted him to their Church, which he viewed with great pleasure. He enquired into, and was informed of the particulars of their public, and domestic œconomy: but it does not appear that
at

wards Bp. of Ely, by R. Crashaw, B. Oley, and several others; but the Title-page being wanting, I know not where it was printed. The Preface to the reader is dated Dec. 7, 1633.

Not long after this he translated from the Spanish, the Life of Tho. Sanquez of Cordova, a Gentleman by birth, and very learned in Law and Divinity; one who led a very holy and strict life. He died in 1612.

In the following year (on June 15, 1634) Mr. Ferrar finished a translation of the Instruction of Children in the Christian Doctrine, by Ludovico Carbo. The original in Italian was printed at Venice by J. Guerigli in 1596. At the end of the MS. copy of this translation are these words "Praise be to God and the blessed Virgin Annunciated [as translated from the Italian] but I say Soli Deo Gloria. N. F."

In the year 1636 he sent this translation to Cambridge to be licensed for the press. But the authority prevailing at that time in the University would not suffer it to be then published.

at this time he made any considerable stay. The following summer* his Majesty and the Queen passed two nights at Apethorp in Northamptonshire, the seat of Mildmay Fane Earl of Westmoreland. From thence he sent one of his Gentlemen to *intreat* (his Majesty's own word) a sight of *The Concordance*, which, he had heard, was some time since done at Gidding; with assurance that in a few days, when he had perused it, he would send it back again. Mr. N. Ferrar was then in London, and the family made some little demur, not thinking it worthy to be put into his Majesty's hands; but at length they delivered it to the messenger. But it was not returned in a few days, or weeks: some months were elapsed, when the Gentleman brought it back from the
King,

* By the MS. still remaining it appears, that the King made application for the perusal of this Concordance in 1634: by the life in the Christian Magazine that a similar application was made in the year he set up his standard at Nottingham, 1642; that he went in person to Gidding, and was attended thither by the Prince of Wales, Prince Rupert, the Duke of Richmond, and many other of his noble retinue. This may also be true; for the King was several times at Gidding.

King, who was then at London. He said he had many things to deliver to the family from his master. First, to yield the King's hearty thanks to them all for the sight of the book, which passed the report he had heard of it. Then to signify his approbation of it, in all respects. Next to excuse him in two points. The first for not returning it so soon as he had promised: the other, for that he had in many places of the margin written notes in it with his own hand. And (which I know will please you) said the Gentleman, you will find an instance of my master's humility in one of the margins. The place I mean is where he had written something with his own hand, and then put it out again, acknowledging that he was mistaken in that particular. Certainly this was an act of great humility in the King and worthy to be noted; and the book itself is much graced by it*.

The

* This book probably perished with the others that were destroyed in the devastations of the place.

The Gentleman farther told them, that the King took such delight in it, that he passed some part of every day in perusing it. And lastly, he said, to shew you how true this is, and that what I have declared is no court compliment, I am expressly commanded by my master, earnestly to request of you, Mr. Nicholas Ferrar, and of the young Ladies, that you would make him one of these books for his own use, and if you will please to undertake it, his Majesty says you will do him a most acceptable service.

Mr. Nicholas Ferrar and the young Ladies returned their most humble duty, and immediately set about what the King desired. In about a years time it was finished; and it was sent to London to be presented to his Majesty by Dr. Laud, then made ABp. of Caterbury, and Dr. Cosins, Master of Peterhouse, whose turn it was to wait that month, being one of the King's Chaplains. This book was bound entirely by Mary Collet (one of Mr. Ferrar's neices) all wrought

wrought in gold, in a new and most elegant fashion.

The King after long and serious looking it over, said, “ This is indeed a most valuable work, and in many respects worthy to be presented to the greatest Prince upon earth. For the matter it contains is the richest of all treasures. The laborious composition of it into this excellent form of an Harmony; the judicious contrivance of the method, the curious workmanship in so neatly cutting out and disposing the text, the nice laying of these costly pictures, and the exquisite art expressed in the binding, are, I really think, not to be equalled. I must acknowledge myself to be indeed greatly indebted to the family for this Jewell: and whatever is in my power, I shall at any time be ready to do for any of them.”

Then after some pause, taking the book into his hands, he said, “ And what think you, my Ld. of Canterbury, and you Dr. Cofins,

Cofins, if I should ask a second favour of these good people? indeed I have another request to make to them, and it is this. I often read over the lives and actions of the Kings of Judah and Israel in the books of the Kings, and the Chronicles, and I frequently meet with difficulties. I should be much obliged if Mr. Ferrar would make me such a book as may bring all these matters together into one regular narration, that I may read the whole in one continued story, and yet at the same time may be able to see them separate; or what belongs to one book, and what to another. I have long ago moved several of my Chaplains to undertake this business: but it is not done: I suppose it is attended with too much difficulty. Will you, my Lord, apply for me to Mr. Ferrar?" The Archbishop wrote to Mr. Ferrar, acquainting him with the King's desires, and Mr. Ferrar immediately set himself about the work.

In the course of little more than a year, about Oct. 1636, Mr. Ferrar and his assistants
com-

completed the Harmony of the two books of the Kings and the Chronicles, and young Nicholas Ferrar bound it in purple velvet, most richly gilt. It was then sent to the Archbishop and Dr. Cofins, to be by them presented to the King. His Majesty was extremely delighted with it, saying, "It was a fit mirror for a King's daily inspection. Herein, he said, I shall behold God's mercies and judgments: his punishing of evil princes, and rewarding the good. To these his promises, to those his threatenings most surely accomplished. I have a second time gained a great treasure. What I said of the first book, I may most justly say of this; and I desire you will let them know my high esteem both of it and of them." Dr. Cofins then presented a letter from Mr. Ferrar, which the King declared he thought the finest composition he ever read*. In farther discoursing of these Harmonies with the Divines, the King determined that for public benefit they should be printed under his own immediate command and protection.

* Unfortunately the copy of this letter cannot be found.

tion. But the troubles of the ensuing times prevented this laudable purpose from being carried into execution. The Title of this second Harmony was as follows;

“ The History of the Israelites from the death of King Saul, to their carrying away captive into Babylon: collected out of the books of the Kings, and Chronicles, in the words of the text, without any alteration of importance by addition to or diminution from them. Whereby, First, all the actions and passages related in any of the books of the Kings and Chronicles, whether jointly or severally, are reduced into the body of one compleat narration. Secondly, they are digested into an orderly dependance one upon the other. Thirdly, many difficult places are cleared, and many seeming differences between the books of Kings and Chronicles, compounded. And this is so contrived, as notwithstanding the mutual compositions of the books into one Historical Collection, yet the form of each of them is preserved entire, in such a manner as they
a
may

may be easily read, severally and distinctly from first to last. Together with several Tables. The first, summarily declaring the several heads or chapters into which the Historical Collection is divided. The second, specifying what passages are related *severally* in the aforesaid books; and what are *jointly* related by them both; as also in what heads and chapters in this Collection they may be found. The third, shewing where every chapter of the texts themselves, and every part of them may be readily found in this Historical Collection."

Fragments of one copy of this, and some other of the Harmonies, with some of the Prints belonging to them, and the three tables specified in the Title above, have lately been found among the old MSS. of the family; but very much disjointed and confused, and considerably hurt by time and other injuries.

These are probably the last works of this sort, executed by Mr. Ferrar, who died in

little more than a year, and was very weak and infirm a considerable time before his death. But the connection between the King and this family did not cease on Mr. Ferrar's death. For it appears from several papers still in being, that there was what may be justly called a friendly intercourse subsisting, even till the distressful year 1646. For during this interval, and after the death of Mr. Ferrar, other Harmonies of other parts of the Scripture were drawn up by Nicholas Ferrar jun. upon the plan of his uncle, by the particular direction of the King, for the use of the Prince; and were to him presented in the years 1639, 1641, and at other times. This extraordinary young man was particularly favoured by the King, who had undertaken to send him to Oxford under his own immediate protection; and to take upon himself the care and expence of compleating his education. But his ill state of health, which ended in an early death, prevented the execution of this benevolent intention. The particular memorials of this intercourse were probably lost in the ensuing distractions.

On the 27th of April, in that fatal year (1646) the King left Oxford. Being unresolved how to dispose of himself, he shifted about from place to place, with his trusty Chaplain, Dr. Hudson, and at length came to Downham in Norfolk. From thence he came on May the 2^d very privately and in the night to Gidding. Mr. Nicholas Ferrar had been dead several years. But the King having an entire confidence in the family, made himself known to Mr. John Ferrar, who received his Majesty with all possible duty and respect. But fearing that Gidding, from the known loyalty of the family, might be a suspected place, for better concealment he conducted his Majesty to a private house at Coppinford, an obscure village at a small distance from Gidding, and not far from Stilton. Here the King slept, and went from thence, May 3, to Stamford, where he lodged one night, staid till eleven the next night, and from thence went, on May 5, to the Scotch army.

Of the King's coming at this time in this

state of distress to Gidding, I collect from various authorities the following evidence.

In the examination of Dr. Michael Hudson, taken May 16, 1646, before Henry Dawson, Esq; Dep. Mayor of Newcastle upon Tyne, he deposes that he came from Oxford on Monday morning about 3 o'clock, April 27; and that his Majesty, Mr. Ashburnham and himself made use of an old Pass, which they had gotten from an officer in Oxford. That they went first to Dorchester, then to Henley, Maidenhead, and so on the road toward London: but he refused to say where the King lodged on Monday night. That when they turned to go northward, his Majesty lodged Tuesday, Ap. 28, at Whethamstead near to St. Albans. That from thence his Majesty went to a small village within seven miles of Newmarket, and lodged in a common Inn, Wednesday 29. From thence they went to a place called Downham, where his Majesty lodged, Thursday 30. From thence to Coppinford, where his Majesty lodged, Friday, May 1. From
thence

thence to Stamford, May 2, where they stayed till midnight, May 3. Went from thence, Monday, May 4, and came to the Scotch army, Tuesday, May 5.

This is the substance of the examination of Dr. Hudson concerning the King's journey from Oxford to the Scotch army*.

In

* Michael Hudson was born in Westmoreland, and educated in Queen's College, Oxford. In 1630 he was made Fellow of that College. He was afterward beneficed in Lincolnshire. But when the King set up his standard he left his benefice and adhered to him. After the battle at Edge-hill he retired to Oxford, and in February, 1642, was created D.D. and made Chaplain to his Majesty. Soon after, he had an important employment in the army in the north under the command of the Marquis of Newcastle. On the 8th of June, 1646, he was discovered at Rochester, brought to London, and committed prisoner to London house. On Nov. 18, he escaped from his prison, and in January following he was retaken, and committed close prisoner to the tower. He escaped also from thence in the beginning of 1648. On the 6th of June that year, intelligence was brought to the Parliament that the Royalists were in arms in Lincolnshire under the command of Dr. Hudson; and two days after, information came from Col. Tho. Waite that he had suppressed the insurrection of malignants at Stamford in Lincolnshire and had killed their commander Dr. Hudson.

In the letter from Miles Corbett, and Valentine Walton to Mr. Lenthall the speaker, directed, Haste, Haste, Post Haste, the account agrees with the examination of Dr. Hudson, with respect to the King's coming with Hudson to Downham, and lodging there on Thursday the last day of April, but states that they *cannot learn* where they were on Friday night. It afterwards mentions several particular circumstances, as their being at a blind alehouse at Crimlesham about eight miles from Lynn, and the King's being in a Parson's habit, and changing his black coat and cassock for a grey one procured

The circumstances of his death were attended with peculiar barbarity. He fled with the chief of his party to Woodcroft house near Peterborough. The house being forced, and most of the Royalists taken, Hudson, with some of the most courageous, went up to the battlements, where they defended themselves for some time. At length, upon promise of quarter, they yielded; but when they had so done, the promise of quarter was broken. Hudson, being thrown over the battlements, caught hold of a spout, or out-stone, and there hung: but his hands being cut off, he fell into the moat underneath, much wounded, and desired to come on land to die there. As he approached the shore, one of his enemies beat his brains out with the butt end of his musket. See A. Wood, Vol. II. Col. 113.

cured by Mr. Skipwith; and that his Majesty bought a new hat at Downham. But these particulars seem to be delivered more from hearsay accounts, than regular evidence. The main purport of this letter confirms the deposition in Dr. Hudson's examination, that the King certainly was at Downham, on the last of April, or the first of May: and in fact he was there on both days, coming to that place on the last of April, and leaving it on the first of May.

Mr. Ferrar's MS. asserts that the King came very privately to Gidding, May 2. Dr. Hudson says the King slept at Coppinford, May 1. These two accounts may easily be reconciled. Dr. Hudson reckons the night, or time of his Majesty's lodging and sleeping, as belonging to the preceding day, on which he came from Downham or Crim-plesham, which was May the first. But as the King came very privately to Gidding, and in the very dead of the night; and as it must necessarily require some time to provide for his lodging at Coppinford, this

would of course break into the morning of May the 2^d: and Mr. Ferrar might with equal propriety say that the King came very privately to Gidding, and that he conducted his Majesty to sleep at Coppinford, May 2.

These circumstances must awaken the compassion of every feeling heart, even amongst those who are disposed to lay the heaviest load of blame upon the King: since they are mentioned not as an insinuation that he was free from faults, or as an extenuation of those with which he might be justly charged: but as a proof of very affecting distress, and a strong instance of the instability of worldly greatness. He had his faults; and who hath not? but let it be remembered that there were virtues to set in the balance against them.

I have been anxious to ascertain this point, from a desire to make it known beyond all doubt, what was the very last place where this most unfortunate Prince was in the hands of those whom he might safely trust,
and

and under the protection of an honest and confidential friend; and that this place was the residence, and now contains the remains of that worthy person to whose memory these pages are devoted.

In fitting up the house at Gidding, moral sentences, and short passages from the Scriptures had been put up in various places; and in the great parlour was an Inscription which gave rise to much speculation and censure. It was nevertheless first approved of by several judicious Divines, and particularly by Mr. Herbert, who advised it to be engraved in brass, and so hung up that it might be seen of all. But calumny was now gone forth, and nothing could be done at Gidding that was not subjected to the severest misrepresentation. The inscription was as follows.

I H S

I H S

He who (by reproof of our errors, & remonstrance of that which is more perfect) seeks to make us better, is welcome as an Angel of God.

And

He who (by a chearfull participation of that which is good) confirms us in the same, is welcome as a Christian Friend.

But

He who any ways goes about to disturb us in that which is & ought to be amongst Christians (tho' it be not usual in the world) is a burden whilst he stays and shall bear his judgment whosoever he be.

And

He who faults us in absence for that which in presence he made shew to approve of, doth by a double guilt of Flattery & Slander violate the Bands both of Friendship and Charity.

Mary Ferrar, Widow

Mother of this Family

aged fourscore years

(who bids adieu to all fears and hopes of this world

and only desires to serve God)

set up this Table.

The extraordinary course of life pursued at Gidding, the strictness of their rules, their prayers, literally without ceasing, their abstinence, mortifications, nightly watchings, and various other peculiarities, gave birth to censure in some, and inflamed the malevolence of others, but excited the wonder and curiosity of all. So that they were frequently visited with different views by persons of all denominations, and of opposite opinions. They received all who came with courteous civility; and from those who were inquisitive

tive they concealed nothing: for in truth there was not any thing either in their opinions or their practice that was in the least degree necessary to be concealed. Whether their conduct was a subject of admiration or of imitation is a distinct enquiry, which at present there is not any occasion to enter upon. They were at the time, notwithstanding all the real good they did, severally slandered and vilified: by some they were abused as Papists; by others as Puritans. Mr. Ferrar himself, though possessed of uncommon patience, and resignation, yet in anguish of spirit complained to his friends, that the perpetual obloquy he endured was a sort of unceasing martyrdom.

These clamorous abuses were spread about with great virulence and malignity. But no one, who is acquainted with the spirit of those times, and considers to what a degree Religious Rancour had possessed the hearts of all men; how intolerant the Puritans were of the Papists, and of the Church of England; what detestation the Papists had
of

of the Church of England, and of the Puritans; and what a shameful persecution the governors of the established Church exercised, often against the Papists, and always against the Protestant Dissenters; will not wonder that a society of Devotees, who were apprehended not to agree with any of them, should be persecuted by them all.

Hence violent invectives, and inflammatory pamphlets were published against them. Amongst others, not long after Mr. Ferrar's death, a Treatise was addressed to the Parliament, entitled, *The Arminian Nunnery*, or a brief description and relation of the late erected Monastical Place, called the Arminian Nunnery at Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire: humbly addressed to the wise consideration of the present Parliament. The foundation is by a company of Ferrars at Gidding. Printed for Tho. Underhill, 1641*.

In

* This is the pamphlet referred to in Mr. Gough's *Topographia Britannica*. It is evidently taken from Mr. Lenton's letter to Serjt. Hetley; as appears from many

In which production there is nothing but falshood, or what is much worse, Truth wilfully so mangled and misrepresented as to answer the vilest ends of falshood. And this sort of malignity was carried to such a length, that not long before the real tragedy of K.

Charles

many particularities of phrase, and from whole sentences transcribed word for word: and as evidently was it intended as an abuse, and to do prejudice to the family; by the sarcastic and malicious additions made to the expressions in Mr. Lenton's original letter. Of these there are many instances: one may be sufficient to shew the spirit of all. In the MS. of Mr. Lenton's letter to the Serjt. the description of Mr. N. Ferrar's first appearance is in the following words,

“ A man servant brought me into a fair spacious parlour, whither soon after came to me the old Gentlewoman's second son, N. Ferrar, a batchelor of a plain presence, but of able speech and parts; who, after I had (as well as in such case I could) deprecated any ill conceit of me, for so unusual, and bold a visit, entertained me *very civilly, and with much humility:*” but in the pamphlet pretending to quote Mr. Lenton, it is, “entertained me with *seeming civility and humility—he is a jolly, pragmatical Priest-like fellow, and is the mouth for all the rest.*” This is a designed falshood, and is inconsistent both with the appearance and the character of this worthy man. Mr. Lenton's letter to Serjt. Hetley, printed with the Arminian Nunnery, in Vol. I. of Hearne's Langtoft's Chronicle, is nearly (but not quite) exact with the MS. of that letter in my possession.

Charles was perpetrated, certain soldiers of the Parliament party resolved to plunder the house at Gidding. The family being informed of their hasty approach, thought it prudent to fly, and, as to their persons, endeavour to escape the intended violence.

These military zealots, in the rage of what they called Reformation, ransacked both the Church and the House. In doing which they expressed a particular spite against the organ. This they broke in pieces, of which they made a large fire, and thereat roasted several of Mr. Ferrar's sheep, which they had killed in his grounds. This done, they seized all the plate, furniture, and provision which they could conveniently carry away. And in this general devastation perished those works of Mr. Nicholas Ferrar which merited a better fate.

Certainly no family suffered more from less cause of offence: for though they were pious and firm members of the Church of England, they behaved themselves quietly,
and

and with Christian benevolence towards all men of all denominations: and although they practised austerities which were not exceeded by the severest orders of the Monastic institutions, yet they neither required them from others, nor in themselves attributed any saving merit to them; austerities which mistaken piety thought a Duty, but which, it must be confessed, have not any proper foundation in the Christian institution.

A short time before the commission of these violences, Bp. Williams paid his last friendly visit at Gidding, and seeing the inscription in the parlour, said to Mr. John Ferrar, I would advise you to take this table down. You see the times grow high and turbulent, and no one knows where the rage and madness of the people may end. I am just come from Boston, where I was used very coarsely. I do not speak as by authority, I only advise you as a friend, for fear of offence or worse consequences. Then after sincerely condoling with them on their

irre-

irreparable misfortune in the death of Nicholas Ferrar, he bade them his final farewell. But ever after continued their firm friend, and constantly vindicated the family from the many slanders of their false accusers. — But to return from this digression.

Mrs. Ferrar, towards the close of her life, seems to have been convinced that the mortifications practised by the family, were more than were necessary, and she became apprehensive for the health, and even for the life of her beloved son. She therefore earnestly entreated him, and with many tears besought him, that he would relax a little in the severe discipline which he exercised upon himself. And he, being an example of filial obedience, complied in some degree with her request, during the remainder of her life: but this was not of long continuance.

In the year 1635, ten years after coming to Gidding, this excellent woman died, aged eighty three years. Her character, as follows, is given by her son Mr. John Ferrar, who

who collected, and left the materials for
 these memoirs. “ Though of so great age,
 “ at her dying day, she had no infirmity,
 “ and scarce any sign of old age upon her.
 “ Her hearing, sight, and all her senses were
 “ very good. She had never lost a tooth;
 “ she walked very upright, and with great
 “ agility. Nor was she troubled with any
 “ pains or uneasiness of body. While she
 “ lived at Gidding she rose, summer and
 “ winter, at five o’clock, and sometimes
 “ sooner. In her person she was of a comely
 “ presence, and had a countenance so full of
 “ gravity that it drew respect from all who
 “ beheld her. In her words she was cour-
 “ teous, in her actions obliging. In her
 “ diet always very temperate; saying, she
 “ did not live to eat and drink, but ate and
 “ drank to live. She was a pattern of piety,
 “ benevolence, and charity. And thus she
 “ lived and died, esteemed, revered, and be-
 “ loved of all who knew her.” Such are
 the effects of a life of temperance and virtue.

While his mother was yet living Mr.

Q

Ferrar

Ferrar did so far comply with her request, that he went to bed, or lay down upon it, from nine in the evening till one in the morning, which was his constant hour of rising to his devotions. But after her death he never did either: but wrapping himself in a loose frieze gown, slept on a bear's skin upon the boards. He also watched either in the oratory, or in the Church three nights in the week.

These nightly watchings having been frequently mentioned, it may not be improper here to give a short account of the rules under which they were performed. It was agreed that there should be a constant double nightwatch, of men at one end of the house, and of women at the other. That each watch should consist of two or more persons. That the watchings should begin at nine o'clock at night, and end at one in the morning. That each watch should in those four hours, carefully and distinctly say over the whole book of Psalms, in the way of Antiphony, one repeating one verse, and

the

the rest the other. That they should then pray for the life of the King and his sons. The time of their watch being ended, they went to Mr. Ferrar's door, bad him good morrow, and left a lighted candle for him. At one he constantly rose, and betook himself to religious meditation, founding this practice on an acceptation too literal of the passage, At midnight will I rise and give thanks, and some other passages of similar import. Several religious persons both in the neighbourhood, and from distant places, attended these watchings: and amongst these the celebrated Mr. Rich. Crashaw, Fellow of Peterhouse, who was very intimate in the family, and frequently came from Cambridge for this purpose, and at his return often watched in Little St. Mary's Church near Peterhouse*.

His

* A most respectable Author hath given his sanction, if not to the severity, at least to a moderate observation of this mode of Psalmody, in his Comment on the 134th Psalm.

Bless ye the Lord all ye servants of the Lord, who *by night* stand in the house of the Lord. Bless him in the
Q 2
cheerful

His friends perceiving a visible decay of his strength, remonstrated against these austerities,

cheerful and busy hours of the day: blest him in the solemn and peaceful *watches* of the night.

The pious Mr. Nicholas Ferrar exhibited in the last century an instance of a Protestant family, in which a constant course of Psalmody was appointed, and so strictly kept up, that through the whole four and twenty hours of day and night, there was no portion of time when some of the members were not employed in performing that most pleasant part of duty and devotion. Dr. Horne.

The high degree of veneration in which Mr. Ferrar held the book of Psalms appears from the peculiar attention he bestowed upon it; as hath been particularly related in the foregoing part of these memoirs. Nor is he singular in this respect. Dr. Horne says, the "Psalms are an epitome of the Bible, adapted to the purposes of devotion. That for this purpose they are adorned with figures, and set off with all the graces of poetry, and poetry itself designed yet farther to be recommended by the charms of music, thus consecrated to the service of God; that so, delight may prepare the way for improvement, and pleasure become the handmaid of wisdom, while every turbulent passion is calmed by sacred melody, and the evil spirit still dispossessed by the harp of the son of Jesse." "What is there necessary for man to know, says the pious and judicious Hooker, which the Psalms are not able to teach? They are to beginners, an easy and familiar introduction, a mighty augmentation of all virtue and knowledge in such as are entered before, and a strong confirmation to the most perfect among others." Hooker. See Dr. Horne's Pref. to his Commentary.

sterities, fearing bad consequences to his health; they told him that he was much too strict in his way of life; they advised him to go abroad, to take the air frequently, and to admit of some innocent amusement. He replied, that to rise and go to bed when we please, to take the air and get a good appetite, to eat heartily, to drink wine, and cheer the spirits, to hunt, and hawk, to ride abroad, and make visits, to play at cards and dice, these are what the world terms gallant and pleasant things, and recreations fit for a Gentleman: but such a life would be so great a slavery to me, and withal I think it of so dangerous a tendency, that if I was told I must either live in that manner, or presently suffer death, the latter would most certainly be my choice.

There cannot be any doubt but that these austerities gradually reduced a constitution
origi-

On such respectable authority, I may safely recommend a proper degree of attention to the example of Mr. Ferrar, so far as time, and opportunity, and the peculiar circumstances of situation will admit.

originally not very strong, and shortened the life of a most virtuous, and most valuable man.

About three months before his death, perceiving in himself some inward faintness, and apprehending that his last hour was now drawing very near, he broke off abruptly from writing any farther on a subject which was then under his consideration. *This breaking off is yet to be seen in that unfinished treatise, with his reason for discontinuing it* *. He then began to write down *Contemplations on Death* in the following words.

“ The remembrance of death is very powerful to restrain us from sinning. For he who shall well consider that the day will come (and he knoweth not how soon) when he shall be laid on a sick bed, weak and faint, without ease and almost without strength, encompassed with melancholy thoughts, and overwhelmed with
“ an-

* These are the words of the original MS. but the treatise alluded to is not now to be found.

“ anguish; when on one side, his distemper
 “ encreasing upon him, the Physician tells
 “ him that he is past all hope of life, and
 “ on the other, his friends urge him to dis-
 “ pose of his worldly goods, and share his
 “ wealth among them: that wealth which
 “ he procured with trouble, and preserved
 “ with anxiety; that wealth which he now
 “ parts from with sorrow: when again the
 “ Priest calls on him to take the preparatory
 “ measures for his departure: when he him-
 “ self now begins to be assured that here he
 “ hath no abiding city; that this is no
 “ longer a world for him: that no more
 “ Suns will rise and set upon him: that for
 “ him there will be no more seeing, no more
 “ hearing, no more speaking, no more
 “ touching, no more tasting, no more fan-
 “ cying, no more understanding, no more
 “ remembering, no more desiring, no more
 “ loving, no more delights of any sort to
 “ be enjoyed by him; but that death will at
 “ one stroke deprive him of all these things:
 “ that he will speedily be carried out of the
 “ house which he had called his own, and

“ is now become anothers: that he will be
 “ put into a cold, narrow grave: that earth
 “ will be consigned to earth, ashes to ashes,
 “ and dust to dust: let any man duly and
 “ daily ponder these things, and how can it
 “ be that he should dare ”——

Here the strength of this good man failed
 him, and his essay is left thus unfinished.

On the second of November he found that
 his weakness encreased, yet he went to
 Church, and on that day officiated for the
 last time. After this, his faintness conti-
 nued gradually to encrease, but he suffered
 not the least degree of bodily pain. He
 conversed with his family and earnestly en-
 couraged them to persevere in the way he
 had pointed out to them. And addressing
 himself particularly to his brother, said, My
 dear brother, I must now shortly appear be-
 fore God, and give an account of what I
 have taught this family. And here with a
 safe conscience I can say, that I have deli-
 vered nothing to you but what I thought
 agree-

agreeable to his word: therefore abide steadily by what I have taught. Worship God in spirit and in truth. I will use no more words. One thing however I must add, that you may be both forewarned, and prepared. Sad times are coming on, very sad times indeed; you will live to see them. Then grasping his brother's hand, he said, Oh! my brother! I pity you, who must see these dreadful alterations. And when you shall see the true worship of God brought to nought, and suppressed, then look, and fear that desolation is nigh at hand. And in this great trial may God of his infinite mercy support and deliver you.

The third day before his death he summoned all his family round him, and then desired his brother to go and mark out a place for his grave according to the particular directions he then gave. When his brother returned, saying it was done as he desired, he requested them all in presence of each other to take out of his study three large hampers full of books, which had been
there

there locked up many years. They are Comedies, Tragedies, Heroic Poems, and Romances; let them be immediately burnt upon the place marked out for my grave: and when you shall have so done, come back and inform me. When information was brought him that they were all consumed, he desired that this act might be considered as the testimony of his disapprobation of all such productions, as tending to corrupt the mind of man, and improper for the perusal of every good and sincere Christian.

On the first of December, 1637, he found himself declining very fast, and desired to receive the Sacrament: after which, and taking a most affectionate farewell of all his family, without a struggle, or a groan, he expired in a rapturous ecstasy of devotion.

Thus lived, and thus died Nicholas Ferrar, the best of sons, of brothers, and of friends, on Monday, Dec. 2, 1637, precisely as the clock struck one: the hour at which for many years he constantly rose to pay his addresses to heaven.

That

That he was eminently pious towards God, benevolent towards man, and perfectly sincere in all his dealings; that he was industrious beyond his strength, and indefatigable in what he thought his duty: that he was blessed by Providence with uncommon abilities, and by unremitted exertion of his various talents attained many valuable accomplishments, is very manifest from the preceding memoirs, and is the least that can be said in his praise: and though greatly to his honour, is yet no more than that degree of excellence which may have been attained by many. But the spiritual exaltation of mind by which he rose above all earthly considerations of advantage, and devoted himself entirely to God, whom in the strictest sense he loved with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his strength, being united to the active virtues of a citizen of the world, gives him a peculiar pre-eminence even among those who excel in virtue. For though he practised self-denial to the utmost, and exercised religious severities upon himself scarce inferior to those of the
recluses

recluses who retired to deserts, and shut themselves up in dens and caves of the earth, yet he did not, like them, by a solitary and morose retirement, deprive himself of the power continually to do good, but led a life of active virtue and benevolence. His youth was spent in an incessant application to learned studies, and the time of his travel was given to the acquisition of universal wisdom. On his return home, in conducting the affairs of an important establishment, he displayed uncommon abilities, integrity and spirit. As a member of the house of Commons he gained distinguished honour, and was appointed the principal manager to prosecute, and bring to justice the Great Man, and Corrupt Minister of that time. And having thus discharged the duties of a virtuous citizen, he devoted the rest of his life to the instruction of youth, to works of Christian charity, and to the worship of God in a religious retirement, while he was yet in possession of his health and strength, and in the prime of manhood. That like the great Author, who was his
daily

daily and nightly study and admiration, the Royal Psalmist, he might not sacrifice to God, that which cost him nothing. In one word, he was a rare example of that excellence in which are blended all the brilliant qualities of the Great Man, with all the amiable virtues of the Good.

And it is now left to the determination of the public, whether such a Man can with justice be stiled *An Useless Enthusiast* *. Undoubtedly he was pre-eminent in his piety and acts of devotion, which seems to have given offence. Yet in other instances, eminence in the virtuous exertions of the human faculties is attended with admiration, not censure. Handell stands honourably distinguished for excellence in musical composition; Raphael for the superior grace of his pencil: Shakespear, Milton, and Cowper for eminence in poetic spirit: Lock, Newton, and Waring for peculiar excellence in their respective provinces of philosophic wisdom: why then, in the philosophy and practice of Religion

* Gough's Topographia Britannica. Huntingdonshire.

Religion alone should peculiar eminence be stigmatized with sarcastic censure? If by the brightness of his example he may have given such light to any who sat in darkness and the shadow of death, as to guide their feet into the ways of peace, he has not lived in vain, nor been an *Useless* burthen upon the earth.

He gave his mind to the law of the most High, and was occupied in the meditation thereof. He gave his heart to resort *early* to the Lord who made him, and prayed before him. He was filled with the spirit of understanding, he poured out wise sentences, and gave thanks unto the Lord. Many shall commend his understanding, and so long as the world endureth it shall not be blotted out: his memorial shall not depart away, and his name shall live from generation to generation. Ecclus. 39.

I shall close this defence of Mr. Ferrar's character with the following extract from Mr. Cowper's incomparable, I had almost said

said divine Poem, entitled, *The Task*, in which he considers the retired, religious man in a very different light from the Author of the *Topographia Britannica*.

He is the Happy man, whose Life even now
 Shews somewhat of that happier Life to come.
 Who doom'd to an obscure, but tranquil state
 Is pleas'd with it, and, were he free to choose,
 Wou'd make his fate his choice.
 The world o'erlooks him in her busy search
 Of objects more illustrious in her view;
 And, occupied as earnestly as she
 Tho' more sublimely, he o'erlooks the World.
 She scorns his pleasures, for she knows them not;
 He seeks not hers, for he has found them vain.
 Not slothfull He, though seeming unemployed.
 And censur'd oft as *Useless*——
 Perhaps the self-approving haughty World
 Receives advantage from his noiseless hours
 Of which she little dreams. Perhaps she owes
 Her Sunshine and her Rain, her blooming Spring
 And plenteous Harvests, to the Prayer he makes,
 Thinking for her, who thinks not for herself.
 Forgive him then, thou Bustler in concerns
 Of little worth, and Idler in the best,
 If Author of no Michief and some Good,
 He seek his proper happiness, by means
 That *may* advance, but cannot hinder thine.
 Nor tho' he tread the secret path of Life,
 Account him an incumbrance on the State,
 Receiving benefits, and rend'ring none.

The

The man whose Virtues are more felt than seen,
Must drop indeed the Hope of Public Praise;
But he may boast what few who win it can.
That if his Country stand not by his skill,
At least, his follies have not wrought her Fall.

COWPER's Task, B. 6.



AS a sequel to the preceding memoirs, I will subjoin a short account of Mr. Nich. Ferrar jun. as being proper, if not necessary, to clear up some difficulties concerning the works of these two extraordinary persons, who were blessed with a similarity of genius, and possessed uncommon accomplishments in learning and virtue.

Nicholas Ferrar jun. was the son of John Ferrar, Esq; (elder brother to the sen. Nicholas) and Bathsheba, daughter of Mr. Israel Owen of London. He was born in the year 1620. By a picture of him, in the Editor's possession, taken when he might be something more than a year old, he appears to have been a robust, and healthy child. When he became capable of instruction his uncle took him under his own immediate care, and finding in him a quickness of parts, and a turn of disposition congenial to his own, he instructed, and assisted him in the

same course of studies which he himself had pursued in the early part of his life.

In these he made such a rapid proficiency, as was the astonishment of all who knew him, and, could it not be proved by sufficient testimony, might occasion a great difficulty of belief.

It cannot be expected that the life of a young man, who scarce ever went from the sequestered place of his education, and died when he was but little more than twenty years of age, should abound with incidents; but if the term of existence were to be measured by virtue and knowledge, few would be found who have lived so long.

This extraordinary youth was dearly beloved of his uncle, who spared no diligence or expence in his education: providing able tutors both in the sciences and in languages, and bestowing great part of his own time in his instruction. He too, like his uncle, with uncommon quickness of parts, and extraordinary

dinary strength of memory, possessed an equal ardour for improvement, and an indefatigable spirit of application.

He also was the constant attendant of his uncle in his religious exercises, and particularly in the nightly watches, and acts of devotion. And it is to be feared that these (may I say?) too severe exertions might in some degree tend to shorten the term of life.

He was but seventeen at the death of his uncle, and he survived him but four years. He died May 19, 1640, in his twenty first year.

The first work in which young N. Ferrar appears to have been employed by his uncle was the translation of Mynfinger's Devotions; a volume containing a very large collection of prayers for all sorts and conditions of men. N. Ferrar sen. commended this book of Occasional Devotions as the best he had ever seen upon the subject, and said that

it could not but do much good in the world. This the nephew performed when he was about fourteen years of age. His greater works, as they are arranged in the original MS. stand as follows: and I give them in the very words of the MS. without correction of some little inaccuracies in the account, which it is hoped will meet with pardon.

These are the several things performed by him after his worthy uncle's death, in the four years that he lived after him, who had hinted such like things as these, and other kinds to him, &c.

The which were presented to the King, and Prince, not only to his Majesty's approbation, but admiration, that so young years should attain to the ability of the performance of these following works, which were intended to have been fully finished if God had spared life to have proceeded in them, &c.

The first work done.

Monoteffaron.

The Actions, Doctrines, and other passages touching our Ld. and Sav. J. Christ. As they are related by the four Evangelists, harmonically, symmetrically and collatrically placed in four languages, English, Latin, French, Italian, reduced into one compleat body of history. Wherein that which is severally related by them is digested into order, and that which is jointly related by all or any of them, is first extracted into one narration by way of composition, to which are, in all pages through the book, fundry exquisite pictures, expressing the facts themselves, or their types, figures, or other matters thereunto appertaining.

Done at Little Gidding, Anno 1639.

This was made for, and accordingly presented to Prince Charles.

The second work done.

The Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, according to the holy Evangelists, in eight several languages, Hebrew, Greek, Latin, French, Spanish, High Dutch, Saxon, and Welch. All interpreted with Latin or English, word for word interlinearly, and all at one view to be seen and read.

So done and contrived for the use and benefit of all such as are desirous, with sureness, ease, speed and pleasure to attain to the knowledge of these languages: likewise it may be of very good help to all strangers who may desire to learn

The English Tongue,

The third work.

Novum Testamentum Domini et Salvatoris nostri Jesu Christi Viginti quatuor linguis, vid.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Hebraicè. | 13. Germanicè. |
| 2. Græcè. | 14. Polonicè. |
| 3. Syriacè. | 15. Bohemicè. |
| 4. Arabicè. | 16. Danicè. |
| 5. Æthiopicè. | 17. Hungaricè. |
| 6. Latinè. | 18. Anglicè. |
| 7. Anglo-saxonicè. | 19. Gallicè. |
| 8. Moscoviticè. | 20. Italicè. |
| 9. Cambro-Britannicè. | 21. Hispanicè. |
| 10. Belgicè. | 22. Cantabricè. |
| 11. Suedicè. | 23. Lusitanicè. |
| 12. Hibernicè. | 24. Sclavonicè. |

Unaquæq; lingua proprio suo charactere scripta, et omnes harmonice et symmetrice collocatæ

Etiamq;

Syriaca literis, et vocalibus Hebraicis scripta, Cum interlineari Latina interpretatione insuper adjecta.

This work was so done by Nicholas Ferrar, to make proof to the King that he understood all those languages made use of in this and the next work. And his Majesty was highly pleased to see it: saying it did

fully satisfy him in every particular. For it is also to be noted that these works, the first and third, being well accepted by the King and Prince, many passages of moment happened in the delivery and approbation of them, and of the King's resolution then made to send young Nicholas to Oxon, under his own immediate protection. All which would require a large discourse*.

The fourth work.

Sacro-sanctum S^{ti}. Johannis Evangelium
in totidem linguis quot sunt Capita.

Cap.

1. Æthiopicè.

2. Græcè.

3. Syriacè.

4. Arabicè.

5. Latinè.

Cap.

6. Saxonice.

7. Hebraicè.

8. Anglicè.

9. Cambro-Britannicè.

10. Bohemicè.

Cap.

* This discourse was afterwards drawn up by Mr. J. Ferrar, the eldest brother, and author of the old MS. but does not now appear.

Cap.	Cap.
11. Cantabricè.	17. Suedicè.
12. Germanicè.	18. Danicè.
13. Hungaricè.	19. Polonicè.
14. Gallicè.	20. Belgicè.
15. Italicè.	21. Hibernicè et Mos-
16. Hispanicè.	coviticè.

Et unaquæq; lingua per interlinearem Latinam Interpretationem ad verbum redditam et positam explicata.

The fifth work done.

The law of God, as it is delivered in the five books of Moses, methodically distributed into three great classes, Moral, Ceremonial, Political. And each of these again subdivided into the several heads as the variety of the matter requires; wherein each particular subject dispersedly related in the forementioned books, is reduced to the proper head and place whereunto it belongeth. Containing in all three hundred thirty three heads: also every head of the Political is reduced to that precept of the Moral, to which
it

it properly belongs: likewise there are sundry treatises, shewing in what, and how divers of the ceremonial laws were shadows and types of the Messiah that was to come. And also in what, Adam, Abel, Noah, Abram, Isaac, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, Josua, Gideon, Jephtha, Samson, David, Solomon and his Temple, Elisha, Job, Daniel, the Pillar of fire, the Red sea, the Rock, and Manna were all figures of our Lord and blessed Saviour J. Christ.

With an Harmony of all the Prophets, foretelling the Birth, Life, and Death of Christ Jesus that was to come; to confirm the Christian and to convince the Jew: together with a discourse of the twelve stones in Aaron's Pectoral, their several virtues, &c.

As also an harmonical parallel between the types of the O. Testament, and the four Evangelists' relations concerning our Lord and Saviour, respectively prefigured by the holy Prophets, and other sacred writers,

More-

Moreover there are divers treatises shewing how, in what manner, times and places, the several promises and threatenings, foretold by Moses, did accordingly befall the Jews: with the fulfilling also of our Saviour's prophecy in the destruction of their City and Temple, and of the desolation of the land of Jewry: with the miseries which the Jews have sustained under many nations, and particularly here in England, France, Spain, Germany, &c. and their strange dispositions, and God's judgment on them to this day.

All testifying the Truth of the Divine Oracles.

This work also is set forth with hundreds of pictures the better to express the stories, and contents of it.

This was presented to the Prince, Anno 1641.

This work was not entirely compleated by N. Ferrar, but was finished by his cosin Ferrar
Colet

Colet* then of Peterhouse, Cambridge, and was presented to the Prince some little time after the death of the Author.

The sixth work.

Glory be to God on high.

The N. Testament of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; in twenty six languages, which are as follow,

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Hebrew. | 12. Polonian. |
| 2. Syriac. | 13. Bohemian. |
| 3. Greek. | 14. English-Saxon. |
| 4. Arabic. | 15. German. |
| 5. Chaldee. | 16. Danish, |
| 6. Samaritan. | 17. Swedish. |
| 7. Æthiopian. | 18. Low-Dutch. |
| 8. Sclavonian. | 19. English. |
| 9. Hungarian. | 20. Welch. |
| 10. Cantabrian. | 21. Irish. |
| 11. Muscovian. | 22. Latin. |

23. Ita

* Ferrar Colet, Col. Pet. A.B. 1639. A.M. 1643, Regist. Acad,

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 23. Italian. | 25. French. |
| 24. Spanish. | 26. Portuguese. |

To which is annexed the Lords Prayer in
sixty several languages.

Laus Deo.

Dr. Tanner, in the papers communicated by him to Mr. Hearne, and published in the notes to the *Historical Memoirs* of the Ferrar family, at the end of the 2^d Vol. of *Caii Vindiciæ*, attributes *all* these works of deep learning to the uncle, thinking it not possible that one so young as the nephew should be equal to so great a work.

Now here are upon the whole eight works to be assigned to their true Authors, which I think will not be attended with any great difficulty. With respect to the two first Harmonies, that of the Gospel, and that of the books of Kings, and Chronicles, Dr. Tanner determined right in giving them to the uncle. The last of these, which was
done

done at the particular desire of the King, in the year 1635, was without all doubt the work of N. Ferrar sen. since it is expressly said in the old MS. that he designed and finished it between Oct. 1635, and Oct. 1636; and that when he had compleated it, it was then bound by young Nicholas in purple velvet, and most richly gilt, and sent to ABp. Laud to be presented to the King. Had it been made by N. Ferrar jun. it would not have been said only that he bound and gilt it. The first of these, namely the Harmony of the four Evangelists, which was presented to K. Charles I. in the year 1635, was finished by the uncle in the year 1630. The Harmony of Kings and Chronicles was composed when young Nicholas was but in his 14th year, when he had a large, and different work upon his hands, the translation of Mynsinger: and the Harmony of the Evangelists was done when he was not ten years of age. These two works then, by all rules of probability, are to be assigned to N. Ferrar sen. and as far as I can judge, the Harmony of Kings and Chronicles was the
last

last work of this sort that was performed by N. Ferrar sen.

The rest, wonderful as the thing may appear, there is sufficient reason to give to N. Ferrar jun. For the judgment of Bp. Tanner, which is different from mine, I must refer the reader to the notes to the 2^d Vol. of *Caii Vindiciæ*, at p. 809, and so on to the end of that volume.

I will now state these works as they stand in the old MS. and as they are classed by Bp. Tanner, which will give an opportunity to compare the two accounts.

By Bp. Tanner.		By the old MS. marked
Monoteffaron is marked	2. —	1.
The Gospel of our Lord, &c.	5. —	2.
Novum Test. &c.	— 7. —	3.
S. S ^{ti} . Johannis Evang. &c.	6. —	4.
The whole Law of God, &c.	3. —	5.
		6. The
		N. Test. in 26 lang. beginning,
		Glory be to God, on high.
		The

The Monoteffaron, done at Little Gidding in the year 1639, two years after the uncle's death, was by desire of the King, expressly made for, and accordingly presented to Prince Charles: and if the Titles are compared, it seems to be taken from the first Harmony by the uncle, which was presented to Ch. I. in 1635. And the part which the younger Nicholas appears to have had in this work, was to draw up his uncle's Harmony in the three additional languages, Latin, French, and Italian; which may be considered as an effort of no small merit in a youth of eighteen.

All the rest, it is positively asserted in the old MS. were performed by the Nephew, after his worthy uncle's death in the four years that he survived him. These were not all entirely finished; and those which were not, were to have been compleated by his cousin Ferrar Collet, of Peterhouse and of Clare Hall, and afterwards Rector of Hamerton in Co. Huntingdon: but there is reason to believe that he was prevented by
the

the troubles of the succeeding times; in which, for their steady loyalty, the Ferrar family, and all their relations were deeply involved, and suffered severely in their property.

What is now become of the several copies of these works * I cannot discover, and there-

* It appears from the following letter, and the note annexed that Mr. N. Ferrar sen. soon after he had finished his Harmony of the Gospels, presented one copy to his niece Mrs. Susanna Mapletost, daughter of his favourite sister Mrs. Collet. And that Mr. John Mapletost had in his possession not only this Harmony, but also the great Concordance, and other productions of Mr. Ferrar.

Mr. Nicholas Ferrar to his married niece Mrs. Susanna Mapletost.

My dear and worthy niece,

The equal joy and benefit which I have in and by you, make me as gladly give you *my* part, as your sisters have done *theirs*, of this book, and to add my farther promise (which their joint consent doth ratify) that, of every good thing which God shall impart to us, you shall have as free and liberal a communication as we can possibly make you; which not only our love, but your own desert binds us to, whilst you continue (what you are by the performance of your duty) the great comfort and ornament of our family.

God make you to encrease in all his graces and blessings. Amen!

Yr. Uncle

N. Ferrar.

S

In

therefore cannot pretend to form any judgment of their real merit: in the old papers of the family, still remaining, they are spoken of in terms of the highest applause; but possibly, affection for the amiable virtues of a much loved friend and relation may have had its influence on the judgment of the critic. Thus much however is certain, that Charles I. in regard to the extraordinary abilities of the young man, had determined to take him from his retired situation and introduce him to the learned world, by placing him at Oxford under his own immediate protection. But the public miseries then ready to break out, and the premature death of this worthy youth put an effectual

In the Harmony was this memorandum. "This book was presented by my great grandmother, by my honoured mothers two sisters (the daughters of John and Susanna Collet) and by their uncle Nicholas Ferrar (who was my godfather) to my ever honoured mother Susanna Mapletoft, the same year in which I was born (1631.) And I desire my son (to whom I do give it, with the great Concordance, and other story books) that it may be preserved in the family as long as may be.

John Mapletoft.

Jan. 23, 1715.

effectual stop to all the kind intentions of the King.

I have lately found fragments of some of the Harmonies; and particularly of The whole Law of God, &c. much hurt by time and other injuries; a ruin, however, sufficient to shew the immense labour and magnificence of the original structure.

That the younger Nicholas was, contrary to the opinion of Bp. Tanner, the real author of the laborious works here attributed to him, is very manifest from the Elogium Sepulchrale by Mr. Crashaw, who was upon a footing of the most familiar and friendly intimacy with the family, and knew every circumstance relative to them; was used to spend great part of his time at Gidding, and was a man of that established virtue and integrity, that he never would have asserted that this extraordinary youth was one

Qui eleganti, admiranda potius Industria
In sacris concinnandis Harmoniis
Doctrinæ simul et Religionis specimen dedit,

had he not known it to be strictly true.
 With his Sepulchral Eulogy I shall close the
 character of this pious and worthy young
 man.

Lector,
 quisquis es
 quem { vel fortis humanæ
 vel elusæ spei
 vel ereptæ virtutis } miseret,

Siste te paulum ad hoc lachrymarum Monumentum,
 Sepulchrum Nicolai

generosæ Ferrarorum familiæ Hæredis;
 piissimi illius Nicolai,

quem ipse orbis admiratur
 tanquam unicum integræ virtutis Domicilium,
 Charissimi nepotis :

Londini, si patriam quæris, oriundi,
Geddingæ Parvæ, juxta Venantodunum, educati.

Juvenis nimirum
 qui, inter privatas illas solitudines,
 Stupenda sua indole actus
 Ipsum sibi Academiam habuit.

Qui ad vicesimam tertiam Linguam
 vix Tutorem habuit, vix indiguit,
 vix annos petiit;

Et tamen annorum numerum linguis duabus
 superavit :

Ingenio quam annis major.

Cui { Grammatica, Necessitati,
 Historia, Otio,
 Philosophia, Studio,
 Mathematica, Voluptati,
 Musica, Pietati,
 Theologia, Praxi, } fuit.

Qui

Qui

elegantī, admiranda potius industria
in sacris concinnandis Harmoniis
(quibus ne verbum aut superesse
aut deesse Evangelistis ostenditur)

Regi et Aulæ cognitus

Doctrinæ simul et Religionis specimen dedit.

Qui { Precibus }
 { Jejunis } crebris
 { Vigiliis }

Temperantia perpetua

vel a primo decennio Deo inservivit

Familiæ suæ et exemplum, et solatium pietatis

summæ erga Parentes obedientiæ

singularis erga amicos amicitæ

eximiæ erga omnes humanitatis

profusæ erga pauperes benignitatis

Veste, Verbis, Vita, sobrius, modestus, humillimus.

Qui in omnibus { Parentum Vota }
 { Amicorum Spem } longè post se reliquit.
 { Omnium Fidem }

Nec hic stetit;

dum majora adhuc anhelans

nullum Studiis suis statuerat

nisi Universæ Naturæ Terminum.

Sed Natura præpropere terminum posuit

ne deesset tandem velocissimo ingenio

quod evolveret.

Libentissimè hic assensit

ut Mens, nondum satiata Scientiis

inveniret in Deo quod in terris non potuit.

Inde est

Amicorum dolori, Reipublicæ literariæ damno,

Spei humanæ Confusioni, Gloriæ tamen suæ

quod hinc abiit

vel ad Doctorem vel Virginum Chorum,

Anno

Regis Caroli XVI^o.

Ætatis suæ XXI^o.

Christi MDCXL.

Die Maii XIX^o.



A P P E N D I X.

MR. John Ferrar, author of the old MS. frequently referred to, wrote to Ed. Lenton, Esq; of Notley, enquiring whether a letter from him formerly written to Serj^t. Hetley, was not the groundwork of a libellous pamphlet, entitled, The Arminian Nunnery, at Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire. Mr. Lenton's answer and vindication of himself, as follows, is dated Oct. 27, the year not specified, but it was 1642.

Sir,

“If your messenger had staid but one night longer, I would not have delayed my answer to your so discrete and respectful a letter; which makes me wish we were better acquainted, in hopes to confirm your good and charitable opinion of me.

2. Sir, I confess I should much degenerate from my birth (being a Gentleman) my breeding (well known to the world) and the Religion I profess; if having, upon something a bold visit, been entertained in your family with kind and civil respects, I should requite it with such scorn and calumny as this libellous Pamphlet seems to insinuate.

3. Sir, my conceit of it is, That, in this time of too much liberty (if not licentiousness) of the Press, many Ballad-makers and necessitous persons (it may be set on work by some Printers themselves, to promote their Trade) distil their barren brains to make provision for their empty bellies, by publishing such novelties and fictions as they think will vent best; and, when they have spent their own little wit, borrow of others to eke it out; and so, enterlacing some shreds of their own, they patch up a penny Pamphlet, to serve for their morning's draught.

4. Of this strain I take this book to be.

The

The ground whereof (you doubt, but I doubt not) was the letter I writt to Sir Thomas Hettley (many years since) upon his request, that, in my passage from him to my Lord Mountague's, being by your house, I would see and certifie what I could in so short a stay, touching the various reports divulged in most places of your religious rites and ceremonies.

5. To which my true relation (which I am sorry and marvel how it should light in such hucksters-hands) the Pamphleteer, by his additions and substractions, interweaving truth with falsehood to purchase some credit to his untruths, hath drawn conclusions and accusations of Arminianism and other fopperies, not once mentioned in my letter; but, as wisely as that Atheist, who, to prove there was no God, vouched one end of a verse where David in his Psalms saith, There is no God; and left out the beginning of the verse, That the fool hath said it in his heart.

6. By this time, Sir, I hope you see I am so far from being the Author, Infuser, Abettor or Countenancer of this Fable, that, by it I take myself to be as much abused, and that there is as much aspersion cast upon me as upon your family, by a fly and cunning intimation (my letter being his groundwork) to make me thought (by such as know me not well) to be the author and divulger of his lies and scandals, which (by God's mercy) my soul abhors.

7. Had he shewed his dislike of some of the ceremonies, &c. (as I myself did, by way of argument) I should not (nor, I think, you) so much have kindled at it. But so to add to, substract, pervert, and falsify my letter, I think the Author (if haply he may be found out) deserves to be censured as a counterfeiter of false letters and tokens, and as a contriver and publisher of false news, according to the law of the land and the statutes in like case provided.

8. His ignorance (which yet excuseth not

a toto,

a toto, if a tanto) I think will be his best plea. For, it should seem, he is no great clerk. Which I observe even almost at the beginning of his story, where he tells a tale as of a third person, and in the same clause, within two or three lines after, ineptly changeth it into the first person; without any apt transition. A solecism which a mean scholar would hardly have fallen into.

9. To have put the true copy of my letter in print, without my privity, had been a great inhumanity. But, to pervert it with so many falsifications and laying his inhumanities on me, I think, none but a licentious libeller, or a beggarly ballad-maker, would have offered.

10. I was so conscious to myself of intending no wrong to your family in my relation, that I thought to have sent your brother [N.F.] a copy thereof; and had done it, if want of opportunity in his life-time, and his death afterwards had not prevented me. And I would now send you a true copy thereof,

thereof, if you had not wrote to me, that you had it presently after my writing it. And sith I have been at your house long since (for it is about seven years past, as I take it, that I writ the relation) I presume you would have expostulated the matter with me, if you had taken any just exception or distaste at it. But therein you might well perceive, that I endeavoured not to detract any thing from you, or to conceal even the civility or humility I found, or what I had heard or believed of your works of charity.

II. Thus, Sir, even the very same day I received yours (for there needs no long time to answer a matter of fact with matter of truth; and being full of indignation to be thus traduced, whereof I longed instantly to discharge myself) I scribbled over this candid and ingenuous answer. And I am now troubled that you gave me no direction for the address thereof to you; which, when haply you shall receive, I leave to your own discretion, to make what use thereof you please;

please; presuming that you will therein have the like respects to me which herein I have had to you. So leaving us to the guidance of our good God, I subscribe, as you to me,

Notley near Thame, your friend and servant,

O^a. 27.

Ed. Lenton.

To the worshipful my worthily esteemed friend John Ferrar, Esq; at his house in Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire.

The copy of my letter to Sir Thomas Hetley, Kt. and Serjeant at Law, upon his request to certify as I found.

Good Mr. Serjeant*.

1. I can give you but a short account of my not two hours stay at the reputed (at least reported) Nunnery at Gidding; and yet must leave out three parts of our passages, as fitter for a relation than a letter.

2. I came thither after ten; and found a fair house, fairly seated; to which I passed through a fine grove and sweet walks, let-ticed and gardened on both sides.

3. Their livelihood 500l. per annum, as my Lord Montague* told me; one of his mansion houses being within two or three miles of them †.

4. A man-servant brought me into a fair spacious parlor. Whither, soon after, came to me the old Gentlewoman's second son [Nicholas Ferrar;] a batchelor, of a plain presence, but of able speech and parts.

5. Who, after I had (as well as in such case I could) deprecated any ill conceit of me, for so unusual and bold a visit, entertained me very civilly and with much humility. Yet said, I was the first who ever came to them in that kind; though not the first whom they had heard of, who determined to come.

6. After deprecations and some complements, he said, I should see his mother, if I pleased.

7. I

* Edward Lord Montague, son of Henry E. of Manchester.

† At Kimbolton.

7. I shewing my desire, he went up into a chamber, and presently returned with these; namely,

8. His mother, a tall, straight, clear-complexioned, grave matron, of eighty years of age.

9. His elder brother, married (but whether a widower, I asked not) a short, black-complexioned man. His apparel and hair so fashioned, as made him shew Priest-like. And

10. His sister, married to one Mr. Colet: by whom she hath 14 or 15 children†: all which are in the house (which I saw not yet.)

11. And of these, and two or three maid-servants, the family consists.

12. I saluted the mother and daughter §, not like Nuns, but as we use to salute other

† But 12 only. Add to these Mr. John Ferrars 4 children, and they make 16.

§ Old Mrs. Ferrar and Mrs. Susanna Collet.

other women. And (after we were all seated circular-wise, and my deprecations renewed to the other three *) I desired that, to their favor of entertaining me, they would add the giving of me a free liberty to speak ingenuously what I conceived of any thing I should see or have heard of, without any distaste to them.

13. Which being granted; I first told them, what I had heard of the Nuns of Gidding. Of two, watching and praying all night. Of their canonical hours. Of their crosses on the outside and inside of their chapel. Of an altar there, richly decked with plate, tapestry, and tapers. Of their adorations and geniculations at their entering therein. Which, I objected, might favor of superstition and Popery.

14. Here the younger sonne, the mouth for them all, cut me off; and, to this last, answered first, with a protestation, That he
did

* Mr. John Ferrar, Mr. Nicholas Ferrar, and Mr. John Collet.

did as verily believe the Pope to be Anti-christ as any article of his faith. Where-with I was satisfied and silenced, touching that point.

15. For the Nunnery; he said, That the name of Nuns was odious. But the truth (from whence that untrue report might arise) was, that two of his nieces had lived, one, thirty; the other, thirty two, years, virgins; and so resolved to continue (as he hoped they would) the better to give themselves to Fasting and Prayer: but had made no vows.

16. For the canonical hours, he said, they usually prayed *six* times a day. As I remember, *twice* a day publickly, in the Chapel; and four times more, privately, in the house. In the Chapel, after the order of the book of Common-Prayer; in their house, particular prayers for a private family.

17. I said, if they spent so much time in praying, they would leave little for preach-
T
ing

ing or for their weekly callings. For the one I vouched the text, He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination*. For the other, Six days shalt thou labour, &c.

18. To the one he answered, that a neighbor Minister of another parish came on Sunday-mornings, and preached; and sometimes they went to his parish. To the other, that their calling was to serve God; which he took to be the best.

19. I replied, that, for men in health and of active bodies and parts, it were a tempting of God to quit our callings, and wholly to betake ourselves to fasting, prayer, and a contemplative life, which by some is thought little better than a serious kind of idleness; not to term it (as St. Austin terms moral virtues without Christ) *splendida peccata*.

20. He enjoined, that they had found divers perplexities, distractions, and almost utter ruin, in their callings. But (if others
knew

* Prov. xxviii. 9.

knew what comfort and content God had ministered to them since their sequestration, and with what incredible improvements of their livelihood) it might encourage others to [take] the like course.

21. I said, that such an imitation might be of dangerous consequence. And that if any, in good case before, should fall into poverty [when entred into it,] few afterwards would follow the example.

22. For their night-watchings, and their rising at four of the clock in the morning (which I thought was [too] much for one of fourscore years, and for children.) To the one he said, it was not [too] much; since they always went to bed at seven of the clock in the evening. For the other, he confessed, there were every night two (*alternatim*) continued all night in their devotions, who went not to bed until the rest arose.

23. For the crosses he made the usual
 T 2 answer,

answer, that they were not ashamed of that badge of the Christian profession which the first propugners of the faith bare in their banners, and which we, in our Church discipline, retain to this day.

24. For their Chapel; that it was now near Chapel time (for eleven is the hour in the forenoon) and that I might, if I pleased, accompany them thither, and so satisfy myself best of what I had heard concerning that. Which afterwards I willingly entertained.

25. In the mean time I told them, I perceived all was not true which I had heard of the place. For I could see no such inscription on the frontispiece of the house, containing a kind of invitation of such as were willing to learn of them, or would teach them better. Which, I said, was some encouragement for me to come (as one desirous to learn, not to teach) and might be some excuse of my audacity, if they would be pleased so to accept it. But he, barring
me

me from farther compliments, said, the ground of that report hung over my head.

26. We sitting by the chimney, [I saw] in the chimney piece was a manuscript Tableture; which, after I had read, I craved leave to beg a copy of (so they would not take me for too bold a beggar.)

27. He forthwith took it down, and commanded it to be presently transcribed and given to me.

28. I offered the writer money, for his deserved pains: which was refused. And the master [N.F.] conjured me not to offer it a second time. And thereupon [also he] made it his [farther] suit [to me], not to offer any thing to any in that house, at my parting, or otherwise. The words of the protestation are as followeth*.

29. The

* I H S

He who by reproof, &c. see p. 134 of these Memoirs.

29. The matter of this declaration being in such general terms, I said, I thought it without exception. But I prayed leave to except against a circumstance, namely the superscription: it being the proper character of the Jesuits in every book and exhibit of theirs.

30. He said, it was that auspicious name, [Jesus] worthy to be the Alpha and Omega of all our doings; and that we are commanded to write such things *on the posts of our houses and upon our gates* *.

31. I told him, I was far from excepting against that sacred, saving name of Jesus; onely I could have wished it written at length, or any other way, to have differenced it from that which the Papists only use, but no Protestants. And, that the text he mentioned, was in the old Testament (where there was no mention of Jesus, but of Jehovah) to my remembrance. But

32. We

32. We passed from this towards the Chapel, being about fourty paces from the house; yet [were] staid a little (as with a parenthesis) by a glass of sack, a sugar-cake, and a fine napkin, brought by a-mannerly maid. Which refreshed my memory to tell them what my Lord Bishop of Lincoln [Williams] said of them. Wherein yet I brake no laws of humanity or hospitality (though spoken at his table.) For he said nothing but what they wished and were glad to hear; [all] being but the relation of the grave and discrete answers (as my Lord himself termed them) of the old Gentlewoman to some of his Lordships expostulations.

33. To that part concerning the young Deacon, whom his Lordship had heard of, to come from Cambridge to officiate in their Chapel; he (*innuendo* even the younger son, who onely was the speaker) said, that himself was the young Deacon intended. That he is two and fourty years old; was Fellow of an House in Cambridge; and hath taken the Orders of a Deacon.—To say nothing

of his having been at Rome (whereof I could have excepted no more against him than he might against me) For having been so long in the labor of the Chapel, it is now high time we were at the Church —

34. At the entring thereof he made a low obeysance; a few paces farther, a lower; coming to the half-pace (which was at the east end, where the table stood) he bowed to the ground, if not prostrated himself: then went up into a fair, large reading place (a preaching place being, of the same proportion, right over against it.) The mother, with all her train (which were her daughter and daughter's daughters) had a fair island seat.

35. He placed me above, upon the half-pace, with two fair window cushions of green velvet before me. Over against me was such another seat, so suited; but no body to set in it. The daughter's four sons knelt all the while on the edge of the half-pace; all in black gowns. (And they went
to

to Church in round Monmouth caps, as my man said; for I looked not back) the rest all in black, save one of the daughter's daughters, who was in a Fryer's grey gown.

36. We being thus placed, the Deacon (for so I must now call him) with a very loud and distinct voice, began with the Lamentation, read divers Prayers and Collects in the book of Common-Prayer, and Athanasius his Creed, and concluded with The Peace of God, &c.

37. All ended, the mother, with all her company, attended my coming down. But her son (the Deacon) told her, I would stay awhile to view the Chapel. So with all their civil salutations towards me (which I returned them afar off; for I durst not come nearer lest I should have light upon one of the virgins; not knowing whether they would have taken a kiss in good part or no) they departed home.

38. Now (none but the Deacon and I left)

left) I observed the Chapel, in general, to be fairly and sweetly adorned with herbs and flowers, natural in some places and artificial upon every *pillar** along both sides the Chapel (such as are in Cathedral Churches) with tapers (I mean great virgin-wax-candles) on every pillar.

39. The half-pace at the upper end (for there was no other division betwixt the body of the Chapel and the east part) was all covered with tapestry. And, upon that half-pace, stood the Communion-table (not Altar-wise, as reported †) with a rich carpet hang-

* *Pillar*. He should rather have said stalls: for there are no pillars in the Chapel. F. P.

† Formerly the Church Puritans generally set the Communion table either in the body of the Church, or (if in the Chancel, yet) with the two ends pointing east and west (not north and south.) And Williams, now Bp. of Lincoln (in opposition to Abp. Laud and others, who set it Altar-wise) insisted much upon their standing so. And, in obedience to Bp. Williams (who was his diocesan) no doubt it was, that Mr. Ferrar set his Communion table, after the Puritan manner, with the two ends pointing east and west. Though, I guess, it stood otherwise 'till this very year 1635. Be that as it will, this passage may serve to shew, that Bp. Williams was, even then, hatch-

hanging very large upon the half-pace; and some plate, as a chalice, and candlesticks, with wax candles.

40. By the preaching place stood the font; the leg, laver, and cover, all of brass, cut and carved. The cover had a cross erected. The laver was of the bigness of a barber's basin.

41. And this is all which I had leisure to observe in the Chapel; save that I asked for the organs? And he told me, they were not there; but that they had a pair in their house.

42. I asked also, what use they made of so many tapers? He said, to give them light, when they could not see without them.

43. Then (having, as I told you before, obtained leave to say what I listed) I asked him,

hatching his Holy Table, Name and Thing (printed in 1637) and setting others to oppose the Archbishop's usage. — Though the Bp's own practice, in his own Chapel at Buckden, both before and after, was otherwise. F. P.

him, to whom he made all those courtesies? He said, to God. I asked, if the Papists made any other answer for their bowing to images and crucifixes? yet we account them idolators for so doing. He said, we have no such warrant for the one. But, for the other we had a precept, to *do all things with decency and order**; as he took this to be.

44. I demanded then, why he used not the same solemnity in his service at his house? And, whether he thought the Chapel more holy than his house? He said, no. But that God was more immediately present, while we were worshipping him in the Temple.

45. I replied, that I thought God was as present at Paul's Cross as at Paul's Church; and at the preaching-place at Whitehall, and 'spital Sermons, as elsewhere. For, *where two or three are gathered together in his Name, God is in the midst of them*†. And yet in those places (no not in the body of the Church, though there be a Sermon and Prayers

* 1 Cor. xiv. 40.

† Matt. xviii. 20.

Prayers there) we do not use this threefold reverence, nor any low bowing, unless in the Chancel towards the east, where an Altar, or some crucifix, is? — He answered me something of the Trinary number, which I did not understand, nor well hear.

46. This, as all other our discourse, being ended with mildness and moderation (on his part at least) I said farther, since their devotions (from which they would be loth to be diverted or interrupted, as in the said protestation appears) are more strict and regular than usual, if in their consciences they were persuaded that all their formalities and ceremonies were but adiaphora (things indifferent) I then thought they were as wise as serpents (in the scripture sense) in complying so with the Church ceremonies, that they might the safer hold on their course without exception. For in this comportment, I thought, authority would not except against them, unless for exceeding the Cathedrals; who make but one reverence, whereas they make three. He said, I spake like
like

like one who seemed to have had experience in the world.

47. It being now near twelve a clock, we ended our discourse, and I called for my horses; hoping that thereupon he would have invited me to stay dinner: Not that I cared for his or any man's meat (for you had given me a dinner in too good a breakfast) but that I might have gained more time to have seen and observed more of their fashions; and whether the virgins and yonger sort would have mingled with us? with divers other things, which such a dinner-time would have best have ministered matter for. But, instead of making me stay, he helped me in calling for my horses; accompanying me even to my stirrup. And so, I not returning into the house, as we friendly met, we friendly parted.

48. Many more questions I thought on, when it was too late; and yet you see I was not idle for the short time I stayed. I asked him, of their monthly receiving the Sacrament?

ment? And, whether their servants (when they received) were attended by their masters and mistresses, and suffered not so much as to lay and take away their own trenchers, as I had heard? Whereat he smiled, as at a frivolous Fable, and said, the only difference [then] from other days was, that the servants (the day they received) sat at the same table with them.

49. I heard also that they never roast any meat; onely boil and bake (but not in paste) that their servants may not be much hindered from their devotions. And that they have but one horse amongst them all. But of these I made no mention.

50. They are extraordinary well reported of by their neighbors, viz. that they are very liberal to the poor; at great cost in preparing physick and surgery, for the sick and fore (whom they also visit often) and that some sixty or eighty poor people they task with Catechistical questions: which when they come and make answer to, they are rewarded
with

with money and their dinner. By means of which reward of meat and money, the poor catecumens learn their lessons well: And so their bodies and souls too are well fed.

51. I find them full of humanity and humility. And others speak as much of their charity: which I also verily believe. And therefore am far from censuring them: of whom I think much better than of myself. My opposing of some of their opinions and practices, as you see in this my relation (wherein I may have varied in some circumstances, but nothing from the substance) was onely by way of argument, and for my own better information. I shall be glad to observe how wiser men will judge of them, or imitate their course of life.

52. I intended not a third part of this when I began, as you may see by my first lines. But, one thing drawing on another, I have now left out little or nothing to my remembrance; saving what I thought fitting in good manners, upon my first affront, to
make

make way for my welcome, and ad captandam benevolentiam; which is not worth the repeating, if I could; and I am something better at acting such a part, than at relating it: though good at neither.

53. After this long and tedious relation, I must now make but short thanks to yourself and my Lady for my long and kind welcome; wherein my wife joyns with me; praying your remembring our loving respects to our kind nieces (hoping the good scholars at Westminster are well.) And so I leave you to the grace of God; and am
 the same, your loving friend
 Edward Lenton.



CATALOGUE of MSS. [once] at Gidding.

1. **T**HE Harmony of the Gospels, requested by, and presented to K. Charles I.
2. The Harmony of the books of Kings and Chronicles, done at the desire of K. Charles I. and presented to him.
3. Lives, Characters, Histories, and Tales for moral and religious Instruction, in five volumes folio, neatly bound and gilt by Mary Collet.
4. Memoranda concerning the ordering the house and family.
5. Restitution of the Glebe, 52 pages folio.
6. Thanksgiving, upon learning the Concordance, folio.

—Do. in 4°. but imperfect, in Mr. N. F's own hand.

These undoubtedly were all written by N. Ferrar sen. beside the various works mentioned in the course of these Memoirs.

7. Poems by Richard Ferrar, Esq; 16 pages 4^{to}.

8. Account of the King's being at Gidding, 5 pages folio. In a letter from Mr. Peck, it is said, "I have now got the account of King Charles I. being three times at Gidding in 1633, 1640, and 1646."

9. Mr. Nich. Ferrar's Life: in the hand of Mr. J. Ferrar, 76 pages folio.

10. Mementos concerning Mr. N. Ferrar, folio, 1655.

11. Letter from Dr. Byng to Mr. N. Ferrar, in recommendation of Mr. B. Oley, requesting Mr. Ferrar's protection and interest that Mr. Oley might be elected into a Fellowship of Clare Hall: dated Oct.

15, 1623: a second letter upon the same subject, dated Oct. 22, same year.

12. Beside these, which were in great part destroyed, in the devastation of the place, there is an antient MS. in folio, giving an account of the Life of Mr. N. Ferrar, which at length from Gidding came into the hands of Mr. Ed. Ferrar of Huntingdon, and is now in the possession of the Editor. Mr. Peck had the use of this MS. as appears by several marginal notes in his hand-writing: from this, and some loose, and unconnected papers of Mr. Peck, seemingly parts of his rough draught, the Editor, as well as he was able, has made out the foregoing Memoirs. Mr. Peck had taken great pains indeed, and if I remember right, had collected a great number of authorities, and anecdotes, that might have given amusement to the curious. The detention of this MS. deprives me of the power of doing this, and I therefore entreat the reader's indulgence, for not providing him a better entertainment.

ment.—There were also various other MSS. of less import, relative to family affairs:

Having been desired by a very worthy and judicious friend to give a specimen of Mr. Ferrar's devotional compositions, I here add one prayer, which was used regularly the first Sunday in every month, and one which was drawn up on the particular occasion of the dangerous illness of his dear friend Mr. Geo. Herbert.

The established rule of the family was to receive the Sacrament the first Sunday of every month in the parish Church, and on those days in their devotions at home to add a general form of thanksgiving for dangers escaped, and mercies received; of which the following is a copy something shortened.

“ We come, O Lord, most mighty God, and mercifull Father, to offer unto thy Di-

v 3

vine.

vine Majesty, the monthly tribute of that duty, which indeed we are continually bound to perform, the tender of our most humble and hearty thanks for those inestimable benefits which we, unworthy sinners, have from time to time in abundant manner received of thy goodness, and do even unto this hour enjoy. Yet by our ingratitude and abuse of them, we have deserved not only the deprivation of these good things, but that by a rigorous chastisement thou shouldest make us an example of thine impartial justice. For there is none, O Lord, to whom thou hast given more abundance or greater variety of the comforts of this life. If we should go about to tell them, they are more in number than the sand; there are none upon whom thou hast more freely conferred them; yet ought we to confess that we are not worthy of the least of thy favours. And as in regard of our unworthiness, so likewise in respect of the lowliness of our condition whence thou hast raised us, of the dangers wherewith we have been environed, of the difficulties wherewith

we

we have been enthralled, we must needs cry out, Great are the wondrous works which thou hast done: for on every side we hear the voice of the beholders, Blessed are the people who are in such a case. Wonderfull indeed hath been thy goodness towards us, while the wise have been disappointed in their counsels, while the full of friends have been left desolate, while the men whose hands were mighty have found nothing, while the strong on every side have fallen, We, O Lord, have been by thy power raised up, by thine arm have we been strengthened, guided by thy counsels, and relieved by the favour of thy mercies. And that we might know that it was thy doing, by those ways and means which we thought not of, thou hast brought us into a wealthy place, and to these many comforts which we now enjoy. And although we have not any way deserved thy favours, yet is thy patience extended towards us. We must needs acknowledge, O Lord, that the liberality of thy hand is extended even beyond the largeness of our own hearts. And yet, O Lord, all this is nothing in comparison

parison of that which we may farther enjoy. By how much the things of Heaven do surpass those of the Earth, by how much everlasting happiness is more worth than the transitory and feeble pleasures of this life, by so much more surpassing are those graces and favours with which thou hast furnished us for the knowledge of thy heavenly will, and for the practices of those duties, of which our conversation in this world is capable.

Thou hast given to us a freedom from all other affairs that we may without distraction attend thy service. That holy Gospel which came down from heaven, with things the Angels desire to look into, is by thy goodness, continually open to our view: the sweet musick thereof is continually sounding in our ears: heavenly songs are by thy mercy put into our mouths, and our tongues and lips made daily instruments of pouring forth thy praise. This, Lord, is the work, and this the pleasure of the Angels in heaven: and dost thou vouchsafe to make us partakers

takers of so high an happiness? The knowledge of Thee, and of thy Son is everlasting life. Thy service is perfect freedom: how happy then are we, that thou dost constantly retain us in the daily exercise thereof!

With these favours, and mercies, O Lord, we ought to acknowledge ourselves most happy: we ought to be joyfull in the midst of adversities, in the depth of affliction, and in the height of distress. How much more then are we bound to thee for thy mercifull continuance of those blessings which we enjoy! we are bound, O Lord, but unable to perform this duty as we ought; yet since thou hast invited us, we now come to the performance thereof; to render to thy Divine Majesty the most humble, and hearty acknowledgment of our own demerits, and thy infinite goodness. We beseech thee that thou wilt enlarge our hearts, and open our mouths, that our prayers may be set forth in thy sight as incense, and the lifting up of our hands as a sacrifice unto thee, for the only merits of thy dear Son, in whose name
and

and mediation we offer up both our Prayers and Praises, and together with them ourselves, beseeching thee that they being sanctified by thy grace, may be every way made acceptable to thee. Amen."

On particular occurrences, Mr. Ferrar composed more particular forms, to be used occasionally, of which the following is an example.

On Fryday (date not mentioned) Mr. Mapletoft brought us word that Mr. Herbert was said to be past hope of recovery, which was very grievous news to us, and so much the more so, being altogether unexpected. We presently therefore made our publick supplication for his health in the words, and manner following.

" O most mighty God, and mercifull Father, we most humbly beseech thee, if it be thy good pleasure, to continue to us that singular benefit which thou hast given us in the friendship of thy servant, our dear brother,

ther,

ther, who now lieth on the bed of sickness. Let him abide with us yet awhile, for the furtherance of our faith. We have indeed deserved by our ingratitude, not only the loss of him, but whatever other opportunities thou hast given us for the attainment of our salvation. We do not deserve to be heard in our supplications; but thy mercies are above all thy works. In consideration whereof we prostrate ourselves in all humble earnestness, beseeching thee, if so it may seem good to thy Divine Majesty, that thou wilt hear us in this, who hast heard us in all the rest, and that thou wilt bring him back again from the gates of death: that thou wilt yet a while spare him, that he may live to thy honour, and our comfort. Lord, thou hast willed that our delights should be in the Saints on earth; and in such as excell in virtue: how then should we not be afflicted, and mourn when thou takest them away from us! Thou hast made him a great help, and furtherance of the best things amongst us, how then can we but esteem the loss of him, a chastisement
from

from thy displeasure! O Lord, we beseech thee that it may not be so: we beseech thee, if it be thy good pleasure, restore unto us our dear brother, by restoring to him his health: so will we praise and magnify thy name, and mercy with a song of thanksgiving. Hear us, O Lord, for thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen."

Thus have I complied with the desire of a worthy friend; and in so doing have, I think, given to the public, in these examples, not only a proof of the piety of Mr. Ferrar, but also of his excellence in devotional composition.



